

## Alamance-Burlington School System Cell Phone and Wireless Device Guidelines

These guidelines outline the procedure for student use of cell phones and other wireless communication devices during school hours at Eastern Alamance High School, in accordance with North Carolina House Bill 959 (Session Law 2025-38), Alamance-Burlington School System Code of Conduct, and Board of Education Policy 4318. Our goal is to create a focused learning environment free from distractions while ensuring student safety and well-being.

Cell phones and other personal electronic devices shall not be used during the instructional day unless permitted below:

- (1) If authorized by a teacher for educational purposes or use in the event of an emergency.
- (2) As required by the student's individualized education program or section 504 (29 U.S.C. § 794) plan.
- (3) As required to manage a student's health care, in accordance with a documented medical condition.

### Consequences for Violations

Violations of this policy will result in disciplinary action, which may include, but is not limited to, the following:

Offense	High School Student Consequences
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Immediate confiscation of the device and turned over to administration. The device is securely stored until the student's school day ends and can be picked up in the main office at the end of the student's day.</li><li>• Parent or guardian is notified by the teacher</li><li>• Documented in Educators Handbook</li></ul>
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Immediate confiscation of the device and turned over to administration. The device is securely stored until the student's school day ends and can be picked up in the main office at the end of the student's day.</li><li>• Student assigned to one day of in-school suspension.</li><li>• Parent or guardian is notified by a school administrator.</li><li>• Documented in Educators Handbook</li></ul>
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Immediate confiscation of the device and turned over to administration. The device is securely stored until pick-up by a parent or guardian.</li><li>• Student assigned two days of in-school suspension.</li><li>• Parent or guardian is notified by a school administrator and required to pick up the device.</li><li>• Documented in Educators Handbook</li></ul>

4+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Immediate confiscation of the device and turned over to administration. The device is securely stored until pick-up by a parent or guardian.</li> <li>• Student assigned to additional days of in-school suspension.</li> <li>• Parent or guardian is notified by a school administrator and required to pick up the device.</li> <li>• Check-in/check-out process and/or loss of privilege for the remainder of the semester.</li> <li>• Documented in Educators Handbook</li> </ul>
<b>Refusal to Surrender Device</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refusal to surrender a device when requested by school staff will be considered insubordination and will result in a two-day out of school suspension.</li> </ul>

### **Device Responsibility and Liability**

- Students are solely responsible for the security and care of their personal wireless communication devices. The school is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged devices.
- Students should keep their devices in secure locations when not in use.
- Any unauthorized or illegal use of a wireless communication device on school property, including but not limited to cyberbullying, cheating, accessing inappropriate content, or recording without consent, will result in severe disciplinary action and may involve law enforcement.

### **Definitions**

**Wireless Communication Device:** Any portable wireless device that has the capability to provide voice, messaging, or other data communication between two or more parties. This includes, but is not limited to, cell phones, smartphones, tablets, laptops, gaming devices, wireless headphones, and two-way radios. Smartwatches that also function as phones may be worn, but wireless features must be turned off (set to airplane mode) during class.

**Instructional Time:** This typically extends from the first bell of the school day until the final dismissal bell, excluding designated non-instructional times (e.g., lunch, passing periods, and before/after school).

**By enrolling in an ABSS school, students and their parents or guardians agree to comply with the Cell Phone and Wireless Communication Device Guidelines.**