



## Hastings High School

1 Mount Hope Boulevard  
Hastings-on-Hudson, NY 10706  
914-478-6250 (phone)  
914-478-7842 (fax)  
<http://www.hohschools.org>

Andrew Clayman  
Principal

Tara Ware  
Asst. Principal

### **Launching the Distraction-Free Schools Device Policy — Parent FAQ**

**Purpose:** In accordance with NYS law, beginning September 2025, we are implementing a No Personal Electronics Policy to ensure a focused, distraction-free learning environment for all students during the school day. Please see [this letter](#) that was shared earlier this summer from the District office for more details on the new policy.

#### **What's the Policy?**

- Banned During School Hours (7:45 AM–2:45 PM):
  - Smartphones
  - Smartwatches
  - Tablets
  - Laptops (personal)
  - Gaming devices
  - Headphones/earbuds
- Exceptions:
  - Sports practices/games
  - Clubs or extracurricular activities
  - School trips

#### **What Are the Locking Pouches?**

- Every student will receive a personal locking pouch to store their device during school hours.
- Students must lock their devices every morning as they arrive and unlock them at the end of the day.
- Pouches are student-assigned and reused daily.
- If a student forgets their pouch, their device will be kept in the main office and returned after school.

#### **Where Are the Locking/Unlocking Stations?**

- Morning Check-In: Students show locked pouches to staff at entrances.
- Afternoon Exit: Unlock stations are located at: HS & MS Main Entrances, Athletics Office, Nurse's Office, Security Desk and there will be a roving staff on each floor with an unlocking device

#### **How Can I Contact My Child?**

- Non-Emergencies: Email your child directly. All high school students have school email access.
- Emergencies: Call the main office — staff will relay messages and/or have the student call you.

#### **What About School Devices?**

- All students will use district-provided Chromebooks for learning.
- Tech issues? Students can visit the tech office for repairs or loaner devices.



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### What About Athletics?

- Devices may be used for communication after school during sports.
- Students should check SportsYou notification settings to receive team messages through their emails

### What Happens If a Student Violates this Policy?

Violation	Response
Student forgets their assigned Pouch	Device will be held in the main office, in a secure space, until dismissal in a labeled envelope.
Physical damage to the Pouch in an attempt to circumvent the intended purpose ( <i>Ex: Discoloration, pen marks, bent pin, stripped lock inside the pouch, ripped pouch, etc.</i> )	One-time replacement issued; \$10.00 fee if repeated.
Student uses an internet-enabled device during school hours	Parent Notification + device confiscation; potential for further disciplinary action if repeated.
Not being honest to school personnel about placing their device(s) in the Pouch	After School Detention + device confiscation; potential for suspension if repeated.
Repeat violation(s) of any of the six violations described above	School issues further disciplinary response as per the Code of Conduct.

### Final Reminders for Parents

- We ask for your support in reinforcing this policy at home.
- Pouches are critical to student compliance—remind your child to bring it daily.
- More info will be shared at student assemblies, back-to-school night, and parent meetings.

**Questions?** Please contact your administrator or the main office.

We appreciate your partnership in creating a focused, respectful, and distraction-free school environment.

Sincerely,

Andrew Clayman and Tara Ware