NORTHERN MIDDLE SCHOOL
Dusty Martin
Principal
Jennifer Tong
Assistant Principal

March 2, 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians

Subject: Implementation of New Cell Phone Storage Policy

As part of our commitment to creating the most effective learning environment at Northern Middle School, we are introducing a new cell phone policy that will take effect starting Monday, March 4th. This policy aims to minimize distractions in the classroom, teach more responsible use of student technology, and foster a focused and productive atmosphere for all students.

Key Points of the New Cell Phone Storage Policy:

Placement in Pocket Charts:

- Beginning Monday, students will be required to place their cell phones in designated pocket charts at the front of the classroom upon entering each classroom.
- Cell phones will remain securely stored in the pocket charts throughout the class period.
- Cell phones will transition with students from class to class where this practice will be continued throughout the school day.

Limited Access during Class:

- Access to cell phones during class time will be restricted to teacher-guided lessons incorporating the use of cell phones for instructional purposes.
- This measure is designed to enhance student engagement and minimize disruptions during lessons.

Emergency Situations:

- In case of emergencies, parents/guardians can contact the school office, and messages will be promptly relayed to students.
- Students who need to contact their parents/guardians during the school day should do so through the school office.

Consequences for Non-Compliance:

- A consistent approach will be taken for students who do not comply with the cell phone policy. Reminders will be provided by our staff regarding the policy change during each class period to ensure students have the opportunity to follow expected protocols.
- A refusal on the part of a student to comply with staff directions for following the policy will result in:
  - Parent Contact made by School Administration
  - Potential Assignment to In-School Suspension (up to 3 days for 1st offense)

We kindly request your support in the following ways:

- Discuss the new policy with your child and emphasize the importance of following it.
- Encourage responsible cell phone use as allowed during the school day.
- Notify the school office if your child needs to be reached urgently during school hours.

We believe that this new policy will contribute to a more focused and positive learning environment. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated, and we are confident that together we can create an environment that enhances the educational experience for all students.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the school office. Thank you for your understanding and collaboration.

Sincerely,

Dusty Martin, Principal
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