



BEAVERTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

440 S. Ross St • Beaverton, MI 48612 • Phone: (989)246-3020 • Fax: (989)246-3740

Renee Inscho, Principal

rinscho@beavertonschools.net

Shawna Hartwell, Assistant Principal/Special Ed. Coordinator

shartwell@beavertonschools.net

Dear Families,

I want to inform our families of an issue that has become increasingly concerning over the past month. While we are continuing to resolve this issue here at school I am looking to our families to assist us from the home setting. We recognize that together we can find greater success and need your support.

We have an increasing amount of students that are using cell phones and watches inappropriately during the school day. This is not specific to any one grade level. Our school handbook states that “any electronic device that has the ability to communicate with another device is not allowed to be turned on during the school day. Students may bring them to school but they must be turned off at all times”. I recognize that students may be bringing a device to school to use for entertainment on the buses, after school activities, etc. However, these are not to be used during school hours.

We are seeing a dramatic increase in the amount of families calling/texting their child(ren), students leaving class for multiple bathroom breaks (to use their phones), disruptions during class time (checking phones, answering messages, playing, bluetoothing them to their earbuds), cyberbullying, and missing devices. This is becoming increasingly difficult to monitor for teachers and administration. We are also seeing the dramatic negative effect that it has on the student's behavior when asked to put their phones away or turn them off.

Students are able to have their phones on them but are required to keep them out of sight. If you do need to communicate with your child during the school day our office will happily assist with delivering messages. Please call our main number: (989) 246-3020. If your child needs to make contact with you during the school day we do allow them to make phone calls from the main office. This will help us greatly in minimizing the interruptions to the learning that is taking place in the classrooms. If a device does become a distraction in the school setting (including bus times) then we will make contact with home to remedy this situation.

I am not asking for you to keep your child's electronic devices at home (cell phones, watches, etc.) but I am asking that you speak with them about the purposes for usage. Please remind them that they must be put away during the school day. We want them to be focused on their learning to make the growth that we all strive for. Please know that we want this to be a collaborative approach with a successful outcome. I believe that in sharing this issue your assistance at home will create a positive learning environment and reduce any negative issues.

Thank you,

Renee Inscho