

EAST ACADEMY

15720 Kipling Avenue Cleveland, OH 44110 | 216.383.1214 | www.aceast.com

August 1, 2024

Dear Families of East Academy Scholars,

As you are most likely already aware, Governor Mike DeWine has implemented a house bill that includes restrictions on cell phone usage during instructional hours for all schools in the State of Ohio. At East Academy, our primary goal is to ensure the engagement and safety of all our students on a daily basis. The presence of student cell phones has been found to lead to disruptions in education, distractions, and significant social conflicts. To mitigate these challenges, East Academy has implemented a policy prohibiting students from using cell phones during school hours.

We kindly request that you familiarize yourselves with our comprehensive policy, which outlines the expected student conduct regarding cell phone and device usage, the repercussions of inappropriate behavior, and the communication protocol with families in case of emergencies. Your cooperation and adherence to this policy are crucial in maintaining a conducive learning environment at East Academy.

To support the successful implementation of the cell phone policy, we recommend the following actions for families:

Engage in proactive discussions with your student regarding after-school plans, lunch arrangements, appointments, and extracurricular activities before the school day commences.

Ensure your student is aware of how to contact family members during school hours and how you can reach them through the school office in case of emergencies.

For additional information and resources on cell phone use within families, please visit <http://education.ohio.gov/cellphones>.

We appreciate your ongoing support and collaboration in fostering a secure and nurturing educational setting. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours in education,

East Academy Administration

MISSION: To prepare students for a college preparatory high school that will ensure success and graduation from a four year college/university.

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East Academy Cell Phone Policy 2024-2025

To support school environments in which students can fully engage with their classmates, their teachers, and instruction effectively and productively, East Academy's Administration has determined the use of cell phones by students during school hours will be limited.

The objective of this policy is to strengthen East Academy's focus on learning, in alignment with our mission to ignite students' passion for learning, cultivate a strong foundation of knowledge, and foster a sense of community within our schools. In order to grow, we need to be able to focus!

Research

Research shows that student use of cell phones in schools has negative effects on student performance and mental health. Cell phones distract students from classroom instruction, resulting in smaller learning gains and lower test scores. Increased cell phone use has led to higher levels of depression, anxiety, and other mental health disorders in children.

Applicability

This policy applies to the use of cell phones by students while on school property during school hours.

Use of cell phones

Students are prohibited from using cell phones at all times from 7:30am- 3:30pm.

Exception

Nothing in this policy prohibits a student from using a cell phone for a purpose documented in the student's individualized education program developed under Chapter 3323 of the Ohio Revised Code or a plan developed under section 504 of the "Rehabilitation Act of 1973," 29 U.S.C. 794.

A student may use a cell phone to monitor or address a documented health concern.

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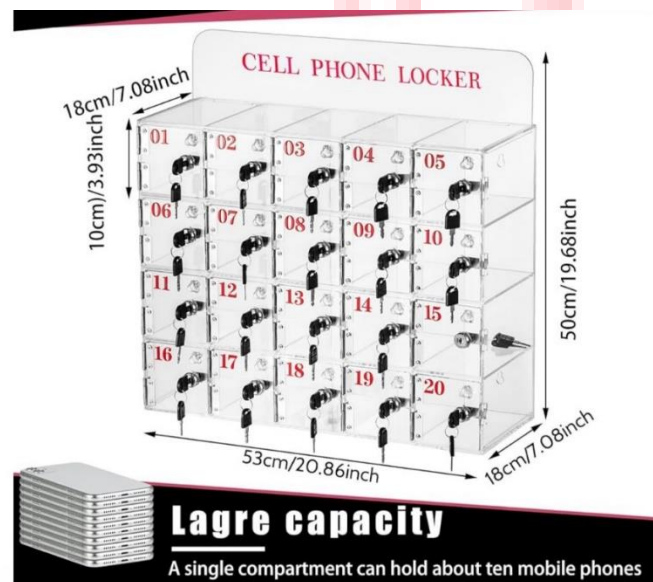
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Cell phone storage

Students' in Ek- 4th grade will enter the building at 7:30am (or upon arrival) and put their cell phones in the secure bin with their homeroom teacher (provided by the East Academy). **Cell phones will remain there all times while cell phone use is prohibited.**

Students in 5th-8th grade will enter building at 7:30am (or upon arrival) and put their cell phones in the secure place lock box (see image of example lock box below) provided by East Academy in the Mod building. **Cell phones will remain there all times while cell phone use is prohibited.**



Discipline: If a student violates this policy, a teacher or administrator shall take the following progressively serious disciplinary measures (per the discretion of administration):

1. Give the student a verbal warning and require the student to store the student's cell phone in accordance with this policy.
2. Require that the student's cell phone is placed with East's administration for the remainder of the school day.
3. Place the student's cell phone in the school's central (Main) office to be picked up by the student's parent or guardian.
4. Schedule a conference with the student's parent or guardian to discuss the student's cell phone use.
5. Suspension of cell phone possession privileges at school for a timespan decided upon by administration.
6. Out of school suspension.

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