

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We hope this letter finds you well. We are writing to you today to address a matter of growing concern that impacts the well-being and academic success of our students: cell phone use.

In recent years, the widespread adoption of cell phones has had both positive and negative effects on society, particularly among adolescents. While these devices offer convenience and connectivity, they also present significant challenges, especially in educational environments like Nordonia Middle School.

Research has shown that excessive cell phone use can have detrimental effects on students' academic performance, social skills, and mental health. Distractions from constant notifications, social media, and gaming apps can disrupt learning and impair concentration in the classroom. Moreover, the prevalence of cyberbullying and online harassment via cell phones poses serious threats to students' emotional well-being and safety.

Recognizing the importance of addressing these concerns, Governor Mike DeWine recently introduced legislation aimed at regulating cell phone use among students during school hours. The proposed Cell Phone Bill seeks to limit distractions and promote a more focused learning environment by restricting cell phone use in schools across the state.

As part of our commitment to providing a safe and conducive learning environment for all our students, Nordonia Middle School will be implementing a policy in line with Governor DeWine's initiative. Effective immediately, cell phones and other personal technology may not be used on campus during school hours.

We understand that this decision may raise questions and concerns among parents, and we want to assure you that it has been made with careful consideration for the well-being and academic success of our students. By limiting cell phone use on campus, we aim to:

1. Minimize distractions and promote a more focused learning environment.
2. Reduce opportunities for cyberbullying and online harassment.
3. Foster face-to-face communication and social interaction among students.
4. Encourage responsible use of technology and respect for school rules and regulations.

We recognize that cell phones can be valuable tools for communication and safety, especially in emergency situations. Therefore, students are permitted to bring cell phones to school; however, they must be turned off and stored in their lockers or backpacks during school hours. In case of emergency, students can seek assistance from school staff to use a phone.

We kindly request your support and cooperation in reinforcing this policy with your child. We encourage you to discuss the importance of minimizing cell phone use during school hours and to emphasize the benefits of a focused and distraction-free learning environment.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in this matter. Together, we can create a positive and enriching educational experience for all our students at Nordonia Middle School.

Sincerely,

Bryan Seward, Principal, Nordonia Middle School