**School Cellphone Policy**

The purpose of this policy is to create a safe and productive learning environment by regulating the use of cellphones and other electronic devices during school hours. Maximizing instructional time is crucial for effective learning, one way to achieve this goal is to restrict the use of cellphones in class. By restricting cellphones, we aim to reduce a significant distraction, leading to an increase in student focus and engagement.

**General Policy**

1. **Cellphone Use in Classrooms**: Cellphones must be turned off or set to silent mode and stored in students backpack, pocket, or purse during all classes, at all times. - Cellphones may not be used in class, *unless* with explicit permission from the teacher for educational purposes. ***Unauthorized***use of cellphones during class will trigger a student discussion with a student life specialist. As a result of this conversation, there is a possibility that the student would forfeit their phone to that specialist for the period.

2. **Cellphone Use in Common Areas**: Cellphones may be used in common areas such as hallways, cafeterias, and outdoor spaces during designated times (e.g., before school, after school, and during breaks). - Use of cellphones should not disrupt the school environment or the activities of others.

3. **Prohibited Uses:** Taking photos or videos without permission. - Bullying, harassment, or any inappropriate behavior using cellphones. - Accessing or sharing inappropriate content. - Using cellphones during tests or exams unless expressly permitted by the instructor.

4. **Parent Communication**: Parents should refrain from contacting their children on cellphones during school hours to avoid disrupting the learning environment. Frequent text messages or calls can distract students from their studies, reducing their ability to focus and engage in classroom activities. Instead, parents should contact the front desk for urgent matters, ensuring that students can maximize their learning time.

**Accountability for Violations**

1. **First Offense**: Phones accessed during class will be reported to the student life specialist. The cellphone may be forfeited to a student life specialist and returned at the end of the period. - A warning will be issued to the student, and parents will be notified.

2. **Second Offense**: Phones accessed during class will be reported to the student life specialist. The cellphone may be forfeited to a student life specialist and returned at the end of the school day. A meeting will be arranged with the student, parents, student life specialist.

3. **Third Offense:** Phones accessed during class will be reported to the student life specialist. The cellphone will be forfeited to a student life specialist and returned only to a parent or guardian. A meeting will be arranged with the student, parents, and an administrator to create behavior contract.

**Responsibilities**

Students: Adhere to the cellphone policy and respect the learning environment.

Teachers: Monitor and enforce the policy within their classrooms.

Parents/Guardians: Support the school’s policy and discuss appropriate cellphone use with their children.

**Review and Revisions**

This policy will be reviewed annually by the school administration and may be revised as necessary to address emerging issues and technological advancements.