

•HODGEN•

Public Schools

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DENNIS SHOUP, SUPERINTENDENT

COURTNEY ALTSTATT, PRINCIPAL

Dear Hodgen Public School Students and Families,

We are most concerned with giving your child(ren) the best education. It is also very important for your child to be and feel safe while here at school. Cell phones are so distracting during the day even for younger children. They are also a tool used for bullying students while here at school. The cell phone policy has been changed to address the needs of our students. Therefore, beginning the first day of school, August 11, 2022, no student cell phones, air pods, Bluetooth headphones or smart watches will be allowed to be in use at the school during the school day. Cell phones must be turned off and stored during the entirety of the school day. During class students may NOT use their phones for calculators, checking time, music, reading a book, checking their grades or for any other reason. Phones will not be allowed during P.E., recess, class change or lunch. Students will not be allowed to use phones in the hallway or restroom.

We understand that it is difficult to feel out of touch, but parents can call the office to relay messages to students or reach their students by email in grades 5-8. Information will also be relayed to parents through our website, Facebook page and teachers will use the Remind app to notify parents of important information such as ballgame scheduling changes. Some of the difficulties we face with cell phones being used by students include the possibility of:

- Students taking pictures in the classroom of other students without permission and posting to social media.
- Students continuously taking out phones during class and in locker rooms.
- Students taking pictures/videos and posting on TikTok during the school day.
- Students watching movies/listening to music while in class.
- Students participating in group texts/chats during the day to make fun of other students and teachers.

Consequences for not following the cell phone policy are as follows:

- First offense-loss of phone for the remainder of the school day
- Second offense-Conference held with parent who picks up the phone
- Third offense-Suspension (Either in-school or out-of-school)

Thank you for your support as we at Hodgen School continuously strive to educate your child in a safe environment that is free from distractions.

Sincerely,
Courtney Altstatt