

Per KRS 158.165, the board of education of each school district shall adopt a policy regarding the possession and use of a personal telecommunications device by a student while on school property or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off school property.

Dawson Springs Independent Schools believes that while personal telecommunications devices may be useful tools for students and may play a vital role in communication during emergency situations, the use of telecommunications devices must be regulated to ensure there is no disruption or interference with the educational process or day-to-day school operations.

To support student engagement with a distraction-free environment during instructional time, students will be expected to adhere to the following regarding the use of cell phones and mobile devices:

- Cell phones/mobile devices shall be placed on silent or airplane mode when entering a classroom. Smartwatches also need to be placed in silent mode. If a student brings earbuds or headphones to school, these must be stored out of sight during class (backpack, purse, drawstring bag, etc.)
- High school students:
 - Will place cell phones in the designated caddy upon entering a classroom; cell phones must stay in the caddy until class is dismissed or the teacher provides permission to retrieve them.
 - May use cell phones before school, after school, during class changes, and at lunch.
 - May not use cell phones in bathrooms or any other location where such use could violate another person's reasonable expectation of privacy.
 - May not use their device to take a photographic image or a recording of anyone without their knowledge or permission.
- Middle school students
 - Must turn in cell phones to their first-period teacher upon arrival. Phones will be returned to students at the close of the school day.
 - May use cell phones before and after school.
 - May not use cell phones in bathrooms or any other location where such use could violate another person's reasonable expectation of privacy.
 - May not use their device to take a photographic image or a recording of anyone without their knowledge or permission.

Students with a 504 or IEP that provides for the use of telecommunications devices will be permitted to retain cell phones in their possession.

Violation of this policy will result in the following discipline:

Violation	Staff Response	Discipline
First violation	The phone is confiscated by a staff member and held until the end of the class. The phone will be secured by a staff member in the classroom if the violation occurs in the classroom, or the phone will be secured in the office if the violation occurs in another location (hall, bathroom, etc) during class time. The student can pick up their phone at the end of the class. Parent/guardian is notified.	The student receives detention. Documentation is made of the violation.
Second violation	The phone is confiscated by a staff member and given to the front office. Students can pick up the phone at the close of the school day. Parent/guardian is notified.	The student receives 1 day of ISS. Documentation is made of the violation.
Third violation	The phone is confiscated by a staff member and given to the front office. A parent/guardian is notified. The parent/guardian must pick up the phone; it will not be released to the student.	The student receives 3-5 Days of ISS. Documentation is made of the violation.
Fourth violation	The phone is confiscated and given to the front office. A parent/guardian is notified and must pick up the phone. The phone will not be released to the student.	The student receives 5 days of ISS. Phone privileges at the school are lost for 20 school days. Students will report to the front office to turn in their phones each day.
Fifth violation	The phone is confiscated and given to the front office. A parent/guardian is notified and must pick up the phone. The phone will not be released to the student.	The student receives 10 days of ISS. Phone privileges at the school are lost for the remainder of the school year. Students will report to the front office to turn in their phones each day.

Elizabeth Robinson 8/12/2025

Date Adopted: _____

Date Reviwed/Revised: _____