



We wanted to take a moment and remind our families of our cell phone free policy. This policy should be familiar to you as these are in the student handbook. Under the policy, students will need to put their personal electronic devices in their locker or cubbies at the start of the school day where it will remain until the end of the day. The district's goal with this policy is to minimize distractions in the classroom, encourage face-to-face interactions, and enhance overall student engagement in learning.

Important Details:

- Personal electronic devices must be turned off and stored out of sight in lockers or cubbies during school hours.
- The term "device" includes cell phones, personal laptops, smartwatches, earbuds, headphones, and other wireless communication devices.
- The policy applies to all students, with legal exceptions for those covered under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Individualized Education Programs (IEP), Section 504 Plans, or students with documented medical needs.

Benefits of a Device Free Policy:

- ✓ Improved Academic Performance – Fewer distractions lead to better focus, comprehension, and engagement in learning.
- ✓ Enhanced Social Skills & Face-to-Face Interaction – Encourages stronger peer relationships and communication skills.
- ✓ Reduced Cyberbullying & Social Pressure – Limits exposure to online harassment and negative social media influences.
- ✓ Better Mental Health & Reduced Anxiety – Reduces screen time, stress, and fear of missing out (FOMO) from social media.
- ✓ Encourages Responsibility & Time Management – Helps students develop self-discipline and independence.
- ✓ Less Classroom Disruption – Minimizes interruptions from notifications, calls, and texting.
- ✓ Promotes Physical Activity & Engagement in School Life – Encourages participation in extracurricular activities and real-world experiences.

By eliminating the presence of personal electronic devices during the school day, Hanley International Academy aims to foster a more focused and interactive educational environment. Parents and guardians are encouraged to discuss this policy with their students.



ELEMENTARY (Prek-5th grades)

Cellular phones are not permitted in the classroom at Hanley International Academy. Cell phones that are brought to school are to be turned off and stored in lockers once inside the school. Smart devices (smart watches, air pods, ear buds, etc) and any other form of electronic device that functions as a communication or gaming device will be prohibited in the classroom. The school will not take responsibility for the loss or damage of such items. This policy is in place from the time the first bell of the day until the last bell of the day. If a cell phone is seen, the teacher will ask for the phone and put it in their desk, and follow the appropriate discipline process below.

- 1st Offense: Phone confiscated and returned only to parent/guardian of student.
- 2nd Offense: Phone confiscated and given to administration, returned only to a parent/guardian with a new cell phone agreement signed.
- 3rd Offense: Begin behavior consequences up to and including detentions and suspensions.

Failure to give up the phone will also result in an insubordination, major infraction. Cell phone violation discipline will also be given accordingly.

MIDDLE SCHOOL (6th – 8th grades)

Cellular phones are not permitted in the classroom at Hanley International Academy. Cell phones that are brought to school are to be turned off and stored in lockers once inside the school. Smart devices (smart watches, air pods, ear buds, etc) and any other form of electronic device that functions as a communication or gaming device will be prohibited in the classroom. The school will not take responsibility for the loss or damage of such items. This policy is in place from the time the first bell of the day until the last bell of the day.

If a cell phone is seen, the teacher will ask for the phone and put it in their desk, and follow the appropriate discipline process below. This policy is in place from the first bell of the day until the last bell of the day. Middle school students may be allowed to use cell phones during breakfast. 7th and 8th graders may be allowed to use cell phones during lunch time. Cell phone use at school is limited to in the cafeteria, and is a privilege that may be taken away based on behavior.

- 1st Offense: Phone confiscated and returned only to parent/guardian of student.
- 2nd Offense: Phone confiscated and given to administration, returned only to a parent/guardian with a new cell phone agreement signed.
- 3rd Offense: Begin behavior consequences up to and including detentions and suspensions.

Teachers will notify a parent if a cell phone is to be picked up. Teachers will be available for cell-phone pick up at dismissal. After 4pm, cell phones will be locked for safety overnight and a parent will need to return the next day. Administration will schedule cell phone pick up with a parent/guardian to review the cell phone policy before the phone is returned.

Failure to give up the phone will also result in an insubordination major infraction. Cell phone violation discipline will also be given accordingly.

By eliminating the presence of personal electronic devices during the school day, Hanley International Academy aims to foster a more focused and interactive educational environment. Parents and guardians are encouraged to discuss this policy with their students and help ensure a smooth transition.