

Kimberly High School Cell Phone Policy Draft 1 (effective 2-2-26)

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to promote a focused, respectful, and distraction-free learning environment. Cell phones and other personal electronic devices can interfere with instruction and classroom engagement; therefore, their use is restricted during school hours.

Policy

Cell phones and Smart watches can only be used before school, during lunch, and after school.

1. Classroom Use

- a. Cell phones must be turned off or set to silent mode during instructional time.
- b. Devices must be stored in backpacks, lockers, or designated classroom holders and may not be visible on desks, in students' hands, or pockets unless permitted by the teacher for educational purposes.

2. Common Areas and Passing Periods

- a. Cell phone use is prohibited in hallways, classrooms, and common areas during passing periods.

3. Headphones Allowed

- a. Teacher discretion will be allowed regarding headphone use during independent work time. During instruction time, headphones are not allowed.
- b. Students with a documented accommodation will be able to use headphones according to their approved plans.

4. Exceptions for Individual Use

- a. A student may request to come to the office to use their phone if a special situation arises.
- b. Parents should contact the main office for urgent messages rather than calling or texting students during class time. The KHS office phone number is 208-423-4170 ext. 3146.

5. Exceptions for Classroom Use

- a. Teachers may allow cell phone use for instructional purposes at their discretion.
- b. Students with documented medical needs may use devices as required.

6. Consequences for Violations

When an offense occurs, the student will be asked to turn their phone into the office. If they refuse to turn in their phone, they are out of school suspended for 1-day.

- a. **First Offense:** The phone is locked away in the office and will be returned at the end of the school day. The amount of time the phone is locked away will be equivalent to a full school day. *If a phone is turned in after lunch, the student must also turn in their phone the following morning until after lunch.*
- b. **Second Offense:** Same as 1st offense plus a 30-minute lunch detention.
- c. **Third Offense:** Same as 1st offense, plus 60-minute detention, and a parent must come to pick up the phone.
- d. **Continued offenses:** The student will be placed on a behavior contract. Consequences can range from detention, in-school suspension, or not being allowed to bring their phone to school for a determined amount of time.

Rationale

This policy is designed to minimize distractions, improve academic performance, and encourage positive social interaction among students.