

ELECTRONICS POLICY

H.J. Cody High School General Policy Regarding Electronic Entertainment Devices

Cell Phones: We understand there are good reasons why students and their parents feel they need a cell phone at school. The key problems we find with cell phones in schools include:

- Sending friends text messages during class time.
- Sending or receiving test answers.
- Bullying or harassment via unwanted text messaging.
- Taking and distributing inappropriate digital photos of students.

We are sympathetic to the need for quick communication but as a staff we have decided that students will not be allowed to use cell phones during the school day (8:30 – 3:15), with the exception of lunch time. Cell phones need to be turned off once you arrive at school.

Personal Music Players, iPods, and Electronic Entertainment Devices: including PDA's unfortunately cannot be used in the school as it has the potential to distract from learning. All Electronics will be allowed at lunch time only. Phones, iPods or other devices will not be allowed in the school on spares or any other time. Any inappropriate or unauthorized use of a device in school between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 3:15 p.m., by a student will result in either of the following:

- 1) First offense: confiscation of the electronic device to be returned to the student at the end of the school day; or
- 2) Second and subsequent offenses: confiscation of the electronic device to be returned to the student by the Administration on consultation with a parent or guardian after 24 hours; or
- 3) Chronic violation of the policy could result in additional disciplinary measures by the Administration including possible suspension.

Note: The school will not accept responsibility for loss or damage to confiscated items.

Because of the capacity for storing, retrieving and receiving information, the use of a non approved electronic device during a test (i.e. text messaging) will be considered cheating and proper action will be taken. "Forgetting" to turn off a cell phone or placing it on vibrate will not be excused.

No use of photographic equipment is permitted during the school day without permission from the administration or as part of an authorized curriculum.