

## **Northwood High School Electronics Use Policy**

In accordance with MCPS policy:

“Secondary school students may possess portable communication devices on MCPS property and at MCPS-sponsored activities. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that the device is turned off and out of sight during times of unauthorized use. The secondary school student may not turn on/use the device until the end of the official instructional day on the secondary school campus. Use of devices by secondary school students riding to and from school on MCPS buses is permitted as long as it does not impact the safe operation of the school bus. However, such students may not use portable communication devices on MCPS or commercially chartered buses used for school-sponsored activities during the official instructional day.”

However local principals can amend these guidelines to best suit their school populations. Northwood High School's priority is to create a rigorous and engaging learning environment. We realize that social media is now an integral part of our world but we also know that technology can be a distraction. Therefore, we want to encourage the appropriate use of technology to enhance and engage student learning. Below you will find the guidelines for electronic devices at Northwood High School which we feel will best suit our population.

1. Students, not NHS, will be responsible for any loss, damage or theft of their personal property. Since these items are so expensive, parents/guardians should seriously consider if your child needs to have these items at school.
2. Students may appropriately use cell phones and other electronic devices to listen to music or text during non-instructional times, including before and after school, during transitions and at lunch. To maintain the integrity of classroom instruction, students may not have electronic devices out during class time unless given permission by their teacher for instructional purposes.
3. If these devices cause a distraction or disruption to the learning environment, or are used in an inappropriate manner, students will be subject to consequences.

Phones and other electronic devices that are confiscated will be locked in the main office area. Confiscated phones and other electronic devices can be picked up from the main office by a parent or guardian on Monday – Friday from 7:30 am - 3:00 pm.