



School or Department Name

Charmaine Tinker, Principal
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Mission: Each student is highly educated, prepared for leadership and service, and empowered for success as a citizen in a global community.

Dear Medina Middle School Families,

Our Administrative Team & Staff hope you enjoyed your summer. Last year, we successfully implemented our cell phone policy. As we near the start of the new school year, we would like to remind you of the expectations regarding cell phone use by students during school hours. **Cell phones must remain in lockers from 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.** We made this decision after several conversations with staff, students, and parents. During these conversations, it was clear that cell phone usage had hindered the educational process throughout the school day, making it increasingly more challenging to keep students engaged and focused on crucial curricular activities.

Post-pandemic, we have seen a dramatic increase in the use of mobile devices by students throughout the school day. *During this timeframe, we have also experienced a dramatic rise in cyberbullying, with often out-of-school conflicts carrying over into the school. We also want to limit the impact of social media in our school and its adverse effects on our kids.* By limiting the amount of time students are on their cell phones, we aim to increase the amount of time students are engaged with their classroom activities and limit the amount of time students spend in the office.

At 7:30, students will silence their devices and place them in their lockers before entering their homeroom class. Cell phone use will not be permitted throughout the school day, and students will not have access to their cell phones during their lunch periods.

We strongly encourage families to make after-school plans with their children before the beginning of the school day. If your child must call home, there are telephones in every classroom that students are welcome to use with their teacher's permission. Health concerns can be addressed using the phone in the nurse's office. **In the case of a family emergency, the office staff will undoubtedly give your child a message or have them return your call.**

If any staff member finds a student with a cell phone on their person at undesignated times, the **consequences** will be as follows:

1st Offense:

- The staff member will direct the student to place their cell phone in their locker.
- A staff member will notify the parent or guardian.

2nd Offense:

- The cell phone will be held in the office until the end of the day.
- The student may pick up their cell phone at the end of the day.
- A staff member will notify the parent or guardian.

3rd Offense:

- The cell phone will be held in the office until the end of the day.
- A parent or guardian will need to pick up the cell phone at the end of the day.

4th Offense

- The cell phone will be held in the office until the end of the day.
- A parent or guardian will pick up the cell phone after a meeting with the student and principal. The student will be subject to a one (1) day in-school suspension.



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Additional offenses will be considered an act of insubordination. A student who refuses to comply with a request to surrender their cell phone by any member of our staff will be considered insubordinate. Rules governing insubordination will apply as outlined in the Guide to Student Success.

We encourage you to talk with your child about these expectations before the start of the new school year. We will revisit the cell phone policy with students on the first day of school. We are committed to providing each student with the best possible educational experience, and we appreciate your support in this endeavor.

Respectfully,

Charmaine Tinker
Principal

David Alabi
Assistant Principal