

## Phone Policy in effect February 24, 2009

**Policy:** Students must turn their phones off and keep their phones in their lockers from 8-3 when school is in session. This means it cannot be on their person, in their pocket, in their purse, in their book, etc. Phones will not be allowed as a source of music for study hall, library, or any other setting during the school day.

**Rationale:** For the past couple of years we have allowed students to have cell phones with them with the stipulation that they be turned off from 8-3. Students, for the most part, were cooperative and had their phones off. **Technology has changed.** Texting is the present wave of communication. The number of students who are violating the rules regarding phones is increasing significantly. Those students who are caught are receiving consequences. However, the complaint is that some students are being more deceptive and getting by with it more often. Messages sent to one another are distracting students from class as well as disrupting relationships by gossiping and unkind words. This tears down our community of faith rather than building it up.

**Consequences:** If a student has a phone (using it, not using it, on, off, in class, in the hallway, in the restroom, their phone, someone else's ) the consequences will be:

- a. First offense: one detention
- b. Second offense: two detentions, parent has to reclaim the phone
- c. Third offense: three detentions, parent has to reclaim the phone, \$20 fine, student must leave the phone in Dean's office before 8:00 a.m. every morning.
- d. Additional offenses of using a phone (yours or someone else's), \$20 fine each time, parent will recover the phone each time, In School Suspension (will increase with each offense). Repeated offenses may also lead to a disciplinary probation and/or contract.

[Previous phone offenses/violations remain on the students' records. The consequence for the next offense will be as listed above.]

If a student is caught with another student's phone, both students will have an offense recorded and both will have consequences. Each student has his/her own locker.



If there is a family situation, a medical condition, or urgency that requires quick contact or communication, the student or parent should notify the office, the guidance counselor, or the dean of students as soon as the student arrives at school. Appropriate measures will be taken to assure assistance for these matters.

This policy will go in to effect on Tuesday, February 24, 2009.