

USE OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES

Wireless communication devices provide the ability to send and receive information utilizing radio frequencies. Such devices include, but are not limited to, cell phones, pagers, personal data assistants (PDA), laptop computers with cellular/phone capability and two-way radios.

What is allowed at school: Cell phones are allowed at school subject to the following rules and regulations. The Morgan Hill Unified School District prohibits the use of all communication devices, which in its opinion, have limited or no educational value or their use creates learner distraction and disruption. Devices not allowed on campus or at school-sponsored activities include, but are not limited to, two-way radios and pagers, as well as PDA's and laptops with two-way messaging capabilities. The Morgan Hill Unified School District reserves the right to define the educational value of any new electronic wireless communication devices that may become available to the general public in the future and to prohibit their use if they have little or no educational value or is such use creates learner distraction or disruption.

Possession of electronic communication devices. Students may carry a cell phone to school and at school-sponsored activities.

Use of devices on school grounds. Students may use cell phones on a high school campus before school or after school, during lunch, brunch and passing times as long as they do not create a disturbance or distraction. Middle & elementary school students may not turn on or use cell phones until the end of the school day unless an emergency situation, as defined by district staff, exists.

Use of devices on buses. Cell phone usage by students while riding to and from school on the bus, or on the bus during school-sponsored activities is at the discretion of the bus driver. Distracting behavior that creates an unsafe environment will not be tolerated.

Parents must request permission for other uses. If a student wishes to use cell phone at an unauthorized time, his/her parent or guardian must submit a written request for permission to the school principal.

Disciplinary action. It is students' responsibility to ensure that their cell phones are turned off and out of sight during unauthorized times. Students who violate the above restrictions shall be deemed to have created a disruption to the instructional environment and are subject to disciplinary action including suspension as well as confiscation and return of the phone to the student's parents or guardians.

Students shall be personally and solely responsible for the security of their cell phones. The Morgan Hill Unified School District shall not assume responsibility for theft, loss, or damage of a cell phone.

Legal Reference:

Education Code: Section 48901.5, Electronic Signaling Devices

Code of Regulations: Title 5, 14103