

WRA Electronic & Bluetooth Device Policy

WRA employs a NO Electronic/Bluetooth Device Policy for students. Student Electronic/Bluetooth Devices must be in a backpack and off/silent from 7:30am-3:15pm.

WRA accepts the following definitions for the purpose of the Electronic/Bluetooth Device Policy:

¹*"The term "Portable Electronic Device" is defined to include personal computers, tablet computers, mobile telephones (including cell phones and any form of telephone with cameras and audio and video recording and transmission capabilities), electronic calendars, e-book readers, and "smart" watches."*

**WRA considers any device/watch that has the ability to communicate, text, take pictures, or use bluetooth as a smart device.*

²*"Bluetooth is a wireless technology that uses a radio frequency to share data over a short distance, eliminating the need for wires. You can use Bluetooth on your mobile device to share documents or to connect with other Bluetooth-enabled devices." including earbuds/airpods/etc.*

Recognizing that some families may need their student to have their cell phone/ smart device to use in the mornings before arriving at school and/or after leaving campus for the day, parents/guardians may allow their student to carry a cell phone/ smart device. The device must stay in the backpack during school hours. The device must remain silent and in the student's backpack at all times while on campus AND will not be carried in a pocket or otherwise on a student's person.

Confiscated devices can only be released by an administrator or front office staff AFTER the Electronic & Bluetooth Device policy has been reviewed.

Why a no-Cell Phone, Smart Watch, or Bluetooth Device policy?

For several reasons . . .

- Electronic/Bluetooth devices act as a deterrent from fully engaging in the rich experiences we strive to provide for our students. We've found that they can be a distraction from learning for the student and their peers.
- Our internet filter provides us data on what students are trying to access on school devices via our wi-fi. While we are confident that the filters on our network are appropriately restrictive, effective, and monitored/updated regularly, we can not monitor or control data/websites/content that students access on campus when using their personal networks.
- Given that we have many ages of students on our campus, it is vital to have policies that ensure everyone's safety and well-being regarding content students access.
- WRA provides internet accessible devices for students to use, therefore personal devices are not needed.
- If a student needs to contact their parent/guardian while on campus, arrangements will be made by a WRA Staff member.

¹*"Use of Portable Electronic Devices in Charles City General District Court." Charles City General and Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Combined Courts, 11 Jan. 2019, https://www.vacourts.gov/courts/combined/charles_city/home.html.*

²*"What Is Bluetooth and How Do I Use It?" Samsung Uk, 18 Dec. 2020, <https://www.samsung.com/uk/support/mobile-devices/what-is-bluetooth/>.*