

PATTONSBURG R-II SCHOOL DISTRICT

#1 Panther Drive, P. O. Box 200

Pattonsburg, MO 64670

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Dear Parents:

Pattonsburg K-12 is writing to share the exciting change to make our school a phone-free space!

We understand that cell phones can be beneficial, however the use of cell phones on school grounds have proven to have a negative impact on the learning environment. The use of this technology poses an increased number of distracted students and student conflicts. In order to decrease negative behaviors and improve the academic learning environment, we will not be allowing the use of cell phones during the school day effective August 23rd, 2022.

Pattonsburg R-II believes in maintaining a safe and effective educational environment for all of its students. Research shows that the mere presence of cellphones in the classroom can be detrimental to student performance. According to a survey and report from Common Sense Media that involved 1,240 interviews with parents and their 12 to 18 year-old children, 50% of teens feel attached to their mobile devices, and 59% of their parents agree that their kids have a problem putting their devices down (U.S. News & World Report).

We believe this will allow our student to be:

- More effectively engaged in classroom activities and assignments
- Less dependent on electronics to do classwork in return allowing for improved critical thinking and problem solving skills
- Less likely to be engage in conversations around bullying thus improving school culture and climate
- Less likely to be distracted and procrastinate on assignments in class leading to academic improvement

Violations of the cell phone policy will be dealt with in the following manner:

- First offense-Phones, smart watches, ear buds and air buds or any non-school issued electronic devices will be confiscated and kept locked in the school file cabinet for two days (forty-eight hours from being confiscated and given back at the end of the day that the 48 hours occurs excluding weekends). If this occurs or the phone or electronic device is taken on Friday, we will give the phone or electronic device back on Friday at the end of the day and confiscate it again on the next school day until the 48 hours has been served and give it back to the student at the end of the day once the 48 hours have been served. Should a person not choose to do this mode of discipline, the student can opt for two days OSS in which work is not allowed to be made up. If the device is confiscated, an administrator will contact the parent/guardian.
- Second offense- Phones, smart watches, ear buds and air buds or any non-school issued electronic devices will be confiscated and kept locked in the school file cabinet for four

Becky Morris

Elementary Principal/Special Education Director

Bill Pottorff

Superintendent

Steve Yost

7-12 Principal

The Pattonsburg R-II School District does not allow discrimination or harassment against employees, students or others on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, disability, age or any other characteristic protected by law. Discrimination or harassment is strictly prohibited in accordance with law. The Full Policy is found under the Compliance (Non Discrimination Section).