



NATHAN HALE-RAY HIGH SCHOOL

Dear Families and Parents,

I hope this letter finds you well. As we begin the new academic year, we want to take this opportunity to inform you about an important update to Nathan Hale-Ray High School's **cell phone protocol**.

Starting with the 2023-24 school year, we have implemented a new cell phone protocol that is designed to help students focus on their education. We understand the role that technology plays in today's world, but believe that minimizing cell phone use in the classroom will improve the educational experience for our students.

The new protocol states:

Cell phones are not permitted for use in the classroom. They should be silenced and out of sight. Misuse of and/or refusal to follow this protocol will result in the following disciplinary actions:

- **First offense:** the student will receive a verbal warning to put the phone away in their backpack or in a teacher-designated area. The teacher will submit a referral to administration to document the occurrence and the parents/guardians will be contacted by the teacher.
- **Second offense:** the administration will confiscate the phone until the end of the day. The teacher will submit a referral to administration to document the occurrence and parents/guardians will be contacted by the teacher. The student will be responsible for collecting their cell phone from administration at dismissal.
- **Third offense:** the administration will confiscate the student's phone and a referral will be placed in the student's disciplinary file. The students' parents/guardians will be contacted by administration. The phone will remain with the administration until it is picked up by a parent/guardian.

We understand there are times you may need to reach your child during the school day. Students are permitted to use their phones at lunch and/or you may communicate urgent messages for your child by calling the school offices. We kindly request your support and cooperation in ensuring that your child adheres to the cell phone protocol. Please take time to review the expectations with your child prior to the start of the school to support their success this year. For more information, you may reference East Haddam Board of Education Policy 5131.81: Use of Electronic Devices.

Thank you for your continued support in fostering a productive learning environment at our school.

Sincerely,

Allison Stroili