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The Conservatory School

2025-2026 Cell Phone Policy

The School Board of Palm Beach County (Board) is committed to providing a safe, positive and productive learning environment for its students. The Board recognizes that, depending on how they are used, cellular phones and other wireless communication devices can be either a valuable learning tool or a source of disruption in the learning environment. In order to maintain a secure and orderly learning environment, student use and possession of cellular phones and other wireless communication devices shall be subject to the limitations as set forth in this policy.

The Conservatory School adheres to the School District of Palm Beach County (SDPBC) Policy 5.183 which identifies SDPBC limitations on cell phone usage in the learning environment.

TCS students may possess cellular phones and other wireless communication devices on school property and school-sponsored transportation, provided such cellular phones and other wireless communication devices (including smart watches, blue tooth headphones) are not visible, used or activated, **and are kept in the "off" position throughout the instructional school day** and while on school-sponsored transportation. TCS students must keep their cellular phones and other wireless communication devices stored in a purse, backpack, or other non-visible secure location.

A student's possession, display or use of a cellular phone and other wireless communication devices on school property contrary to the provisions of this policy shall be viewed as the unauthorized use of the cellular phone or other wireless communication devices when such possession, display or use of such devices results in conduct which includes, but is not limited to:

1. Interference with or disruption of the instructional or educational environment.
2. Use which violates academic integrity or provides assistance to students in any aspect of their instructional program in a manner that violates school board policy or the Student Code of Conduct.
3. **Cellular phones and other wireless communication devices may not be utilized to take "photographs" or "videos" while on school property, while on school-sponsored transportation or while a student is engaged in school-sponsored activities.**

Any cellular phone or wireless communication device possessed or used in violation of this policy shall be confiscated by school personnel and returned to parent/guardian. Should cell phone violations become a habit, consequences will escalate according to the student code of conduct.

If a student needs to contact their parent for any reason, they will ask their teacher for permission and a pass to go to the main office to call their parent prior to dismissal. Students are not permitted to access the office during transition and must have teacher permission to go to the office.

Any student who chooses to bring a cellular phone or other wireless communication device to school shall do so at his or her own risk and shall be personally responsible for the security of his or her cellular phone or wireless communication device. Neither the school personnel or Board will assume any responsibility or liability for loss, theft, damage or vandalism to a cellular phone or other wireless communication device brought onto school property, or for the unauthorized use of any such device.