



# SUNNYBRAE PUBLIC SCHOOL

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705-436-1100 (FAX 436-2950)

Commit to  
Character

**H. Smith**

Principal

**D.O'Brien**

Vice Principal

Dear Parents/Guardians

Re: Cell phones at school

It seems that these days our children have cell phones at a younger and younger age. While these devices provide great security, safety, and information/entertainment, they also come with dangers and the need for school rules and regulations to be clear and consistent from day one in September.

These rules are in place to support student learning and safety. Some students have engaged in using video, games and/or photos at inappropriate times and places such as in class, on the yard or in the washroom. We have had many issues in the past with students texting during class, accessing websites/materials that are not appropriate and using phones to disrupt. There are also times when parents text students during the instructional day. This does not help. Our school is equipped with telephones in every classroom. Arrangements or changes in after school activities need to be made in advance. Of course, there are times when emergencies come up and a call is necessary. In this instance a call can be made using a school phone.

Teachers will continue to set their own classroom rules as to where and when cell phone use is appropriate and students are expected to respect these rules. We will be very clear about the expectations so that students are well informed and can make responsible choices. When students arrive at school the phones are "off and away" even on the yard. This will allow more face to face time for students and promote healthier relationships for all. These expectations are being put into place in order to ensure that we are protecting the learning environment for all students.

The following are the consequences that will be enforced:

First offense: student will have their phone sent to the office for pick up by the student at the end of the day

Second offense: student will have their phone sent to the office for pick up by the student at the end of the day and it cannot return to school for one week. A recess will be spent in the reflection room completing a communication sheet to be signed by a parent.

Third offense: student will have their phone sent to the office to be picked up by the student at the end of the day and the phone cannot return to school for one month. Two recesses will be served in the reflection room and a communication sheet will be sent home for a parent signature.

Beyond these, individual decisions will be made as to whether the phone will be permitted back at school at all and/or if a suspension is necessary due to opposition to authority and/or conduct injurious to the moral tone/well-being of others.

Finally, the school is not responsible in any way for lost, broken, damaged or stolen phones as they are not a necessity at school and if a child and parent decide to send it they are agreeing to this policy.

We thank you for your cooperation, support and working with your child to determine what is best for them in developing responsible and healthy habits.