



Dear Parents,

On June 17, 2024, Alberta's government introduced new restrictions on the use of personal mobile devices in classrooms and access to social media sites on school networks, beginning in the fall of 2024. Note that the division policy can be accessed at the link below.

<https://www.horizon.ab.ca/download/458528>

In addition, W.R. Myers will implement the following policy for the 2024-25 school year.

### **Definitions**

For the purpose of this policy, a personal mobile device includes any internet connected device. This includes, but is not limited to: smart phones, smart watches, and non-school provided laptops.

### **Restrictions**

Personal Mobile Devices (PMD) are expected to be out of sight, and powered down or on silent during instructional time.

No use of PMD is permitted in bathrooms or changing room areas at any time, including during breaks. Usage in bathrooms or changing rooms will result in immediate confiscation of the PMD.

Students will be allowed to use cell phones during breaks in between classes, so long as they are not in restricted areas (i.e. bathrooms or changerrooms).

### **Exceptions**

Teachers may allow students to use PMD for educational purposes during instructional time.

Students may use PMD for health or medical reasons or to support special learning needs.

The Principal must approve these exceptions prior to them being issued.

## **Non-compliance**

Any student who fails to follow these guidelines will have their PMD confiscated for the day. The teacher confiscating it will, at a time acceptable to them, bring it down to the office for storage. Parents will be notified.

Notwithstanding confiscation for the purpose of discipline, the school assumes no responsibility for the safety, security, loss, repair, or replacement of such items, except in the case of gross negligence.

Students can pick up their PMD at the end of the day.

If a student continues to break this policy, the consequences of non-compliance will escalate and may result in the student not being allowed to bring their PMD onto school grounds.

## **Storage of Devices**

Teachers will bring PMD to the office where it will be stored in the office in a secure area for the remainder of the day.

## **Communication Home**

Teachers will notify parents by email whenever their child is found non-compliant.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adam Hughes', written over a light gray dotted background.

Adam Hughes

Principal