DARLINGTON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
HARTSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL
CELL PHONE POLICY*

*This policy also applies to iPods, iPads, MP3 players, personal laptop computers, etc.
*This policy does not apply to school-issued MacBook Air laptop computers.

The Darlington County School District Board of Education updated our Cell Phone Policy in May 2016 in order to accommodate the DCSD Digital Transformation Project and enable our students’ maximum use of technology for educational purposes. The policy - JICJ/Possession of Student-Owned Electronic Devices - and can be read in its entirety on the DCSD website (www.darlington.k12.sc.us). Following is a concise summary of the policy and how it applies to Hartsville High School students.

Students may possess or use personal electronic devices on school property, on school buses, or at school-sponsored events according to the following guidelines:

- **Before school** until the beginning of the school day (8:00 AM tardy tone).
- **During a student’s lunch period.**
- **After school** as signaled by the 3:11 tone ending seventh period class.
- Personal electronic devices are not to be used in areas of the school campus that are designated as “Red Zones.” Red Zones include all buildings (classrooms, hallways, media center, administration building, gymnasiums, restrooms and locker rooms) except the cafeteria. Cell phones should be on silent or vibrate, or preferably turned off, whenever a student is in a Red Zone.
- Personal electronic devices may be used in areas of the school campus that are designated as “Green Zones.” Before school and during student lunch periods the cafeteria is designated as a Green Zone, as well as all other areas of campus except inside the buildings other than the cafeteria (see previous bulleted item).
- Personal electronic devices may not be used to cause any disruption in the educational process or for unethical or illegal purposes. Prohibited uses include, but are not limited to, cheating on assignments and/or tests, harassing or bullying others, and taking or distributing unauthorized photographs or recordings of other people.
- Personal electronic devices may not be used to access any obscene, threatening or otherwise inappropriate material via any form of electronic communication.
- Personal electronic devices may not be used for any activity prohibited by the DCSD Code of Conduct, to circumvent DCSD network security or for any unauthorized access to or inappropriate use of the DCSD computer network.
- **DCSD will not be responsible, or liable for**, the theft, loss, data loss, damage, destruction, misuse or vandalism of any student’s personal electronic device brought onto DCSD property.

With the Digital Transformation Project providing a MacBook Air to every student, generally, there is no legitimate reason for any student to use his/her personal electronic device in a classroom. The MacBook Air meets almost all needs of students for the use of technology for instructional purposes. However, school personnel will have the authority to make exceptions to allow students to use personal electronic devices for instructional purposes within the confines of a classroom.

If a student is found to be in violation of the Cell Phone Policy, the personal electronic device (cell phone, etc.) will be confiscated by school personnel. Refusal by a student to surrender the device is not an option. Cell phones, etc. confiscated as a result of a first violation may be returned to a parent, either on Wednesdays between 3:30 and 4:00 or on Fridays between 10:00 and 10:30. Personal electronic devices confiscated as a result of further violations (second, third, etc.) will not be returned until the end of the school year, regardless of contracts, monthly payments, difficulty of circumstances, etc. This is according to Darlington County School District Policy.
Hartsville High School Cell Phone Policy

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By signing below, I understand and agree that, if a personal electronic device (cell phone, etc.) is taken for a **second time** during the remainder of this school year, the device will be held in the main office and returned on **June 1, 2017.**

_______________________________________  __________________
Student Signature  Date

_______________________________________  __________________
Parent Signature  Date
STUDENT REFUSAL TO SURRENDER PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICE PROCEDURE

- **Level 1**: If a student is found to be in violation of the Cell Phone Policy, he/she will be asked by school personnel (teacher) to surrender the device. If he/she does so, and it is the first offense, the device will be returned to a parent on the next Wednesday or Friday. If it is the second (or more) offense, the device will be kept by the school until the end of the school year, per DCSD policy.

- **Level 2**: If the student refuses to surrender the device immediately, a campus supervisor or an administrator will be called to assist, and the student will be taken to the office of an administrator. The administrator will attempt to convince the student to surrender the device. If the student does so, the device will be returned to a parent after a period of 30 days. The student will serve five (5) two-hour Sunset Schools and will lose his/her cell phone privileges for the remainder of the school year.

- **Level 3**: If the student refuses to surrender the device to the administrator, an attempt will be made to contact a parent to obtain assistance in convincing the student to surrender the device. If the student does so, the device will be returned to a parent after a period of 60 days. The student will serve ten (10) two-hour Sunset Schools and will lose his/her cell phone privileges for the remainder of the school year.

- **Level 4a**: If the student still refuses to surrender the device after parent intervention, he/she will be suspended from school (OSS) pending an expulsion hearing with Dr. Boyd. Recommendation for an expulsion hearing also carries loss of cell phone privileges for the year, loss of the device for the remainder of the school year, and twenty (20) two-hour Sunset Schools.

- **Level 4b**: If the administrator is unable to contact a parent, the student will be suspended from school (OSS) pending an expulsion hearing with Dr. Boyd and taken to In-School Suspension (ISS) for the remainder of the school day. Recommendation for an expulsion hearing also carries loss of cell phone privileges for the year, loss of the device for the remainder of the school year, and twenty (20) two-hour Sunset Schools.