

BROWNING SPRINGS MIDDLE SCHOOL TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICY

Telecommunication devices are becoming an increasing problem here at BSMS. Students are using them throughout the day and that, coupled with them being lost and/or stolen, has become a major distraction.

According to district policy, "Telecommunication devices should not be visible and remain inactive during the school day unless under the direct supervision of school staff for an approved specific purpose. This begins with arrival and ends with departure from the school campus at the end of the school day. The same rule applies for field trips during regular school time. In addition, the Transportation Department requires that telecommunication devices are not to be observed and must remain inactive while on the school bus in the mornings and afternoons. For additional information, see specific school policies.

The school is NOT responsible for LOST or STOLEN telecommunication devices.

Pursuant to board policy 08.2323 Acceptable Use Policy – Access to Electronic Media, students who refuse to sign the required acceptable use documents or who violate district rules governing the use of district technology shall be subject to the consequences outlined within this document. Board Policy 09.4261."

BSMS will implement the following SBDM approved consequences for inappropriate telecommunication use:

1st Offense: Teacher will confiscate the telecommunication device, reteach expectations, and document it. Telecommunication device will be returned to the student at the end of the day.

2nd Offense: Teacher will confiscate the telecommunication device, reteach expectations, and document it. Telecommunication device will be returned to the student at the end of the day. Parent notification will be made by the teacher.

3rd Offense: Telecommunication device will be confiscated and given to an administrator. Student will serve ICE and telecommunication device will be returned ONLY to a parent/guardian.

4th Offense: Telecommunication device will be confiscated and given to an administrator. Student will be suspended and telecommunication device will be returned ONLY to a parent/guardian. Further infractions will result in school suspensions.

This policy has become necessary because of the misuse of telecommunication devices within the school day. **PLEASE DO NOT CALL AND/OR TEXT YOUR STUDENT DURING THE DAY.** We will be happy to relay a message from you or have your student come to the office to call you. Please call the office (825-6006) if you need to get in touch with your student. This is very important especially in the event of an emergency. We do not have any knowledge or a support system in place for your student if you call/text your student with news of a family emergency.

Any telecommunication device turned into the office will be placed in a secured location. **We do not assume ANY responsibility for a lost/stolen telecommunication device.**

Please help us teach your student about responsible use and following rules. We understand who pays the bill and we understand why your student needs a telecommunication device when he/she is involved in an after school activity or is traveling to visit family members, etc. **WE DO NOT WANT TO CONFISCATE telecommunication devices.** Please help us teach your student about responsible use.