

Student Use of Cell Phones and Other Personal Electronic Communication Devices

Kansas law prohibits students from using or having access to their cell phones and other personal electronic communication devices from the start of school until the dismissal bell, except as otherwise provided in board policy section 10. When entering the school each day, students will be required to turn off and turn in their personal devices; student cell phone storage will be provided in a secure location. School employees will be responsible for keeping the devices turned off and properly stored away from the student during the school day. At the end of the school day, students will retrieve their phones and other personal electronic communication devices when dismissed or after the last bell. Students may also choose not to bring personal devices to school by leaving such devices at home or locked in a vehicle on school premises.

If your child needs to reach a family member or caregiver during the school day, they should request to use the main office phone. If you need to contact your child during school hours, please call the office so that we may assist you. You may also email your student at their school email address.

We acknowledge the complexity of this issue. We encourage students to leave personal electronic communication devices at home or in a locked vehicle during the school day. We also understand that is not always possible or preferable. Please note that students failing to comply with this policy will be subject to disciplinary action.

At USD 325 we value the partnership of parents and guardians. When families and school staff work together, we can create a positive, healthy and focused learning experience for every student.

Messaging Between Students and Employees

Safety of our students and staff is our top priority. This includes the use of digital communication tools that are approved, used, monitored, and archived with district oversight. At USD 325 Phillipsburg Schools, messaging between our students and teachers, coaches, sponsors or other employees will use the district's email system.

Please allow an employee up to 24 hours for a response during a school week. School staff members are not requested nor required to monitor messages over weekends or other times when the school is closed for breaks or holidays, unless they are working in an official capacity during that time.

If you have an urgent need, please contact the school office or district office for assistance. Use of other digital communication tools for direct communication between a student and employee is otherwise limited to academic platforms and direct message services only as authorized by law. The district will continue to use the TeamReach application to communicate activity and scheduling information with students and parents, but the option to comment or reply will be turned off. Students and parents must use a district email address to communicate with district staff.

Two-way communication between employees and students are not permitted through any social media platform, such as Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, X, and TikTok. Individuals making unauthorized two-way communications using social media may be subject to disciplinary action.