

Digital Citizenship

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Many teachers integrate technology into their daily lessons to help engage your children in the learning process. Often, students will use their own electronic devices (cell phones, iPods, etc.) during a lesson to look up information, answer a teacher created survey, or work on a shared document, for example. It is not required, however, that your children have or bring a device to school.

The [Pew Research Center](#) found that 73% of teens have smartphones and 92% of those teens go online daily and more than half of them reported going online several times a day. Almost a fourth of those teens reported that they go online “almost constantly.” Whether your children currently have their own devices or not, our faculty and staff work with your children each day to help them become responsible Digital Citizens. Studies have shown that screen time can be a distraction for students and can negatively impact a teen's life including their academic achievement, social interactions/relationships and sleep habits. Electronic devices and social media have changed how people live their lives and as a result we must work together to help our students navigate these changes. A [PBS NewsHour](#) report highlights important information regarding the addictive nature of screen time.

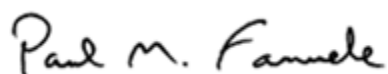
One of the ways we are helping students be responsible Digital Citizens is by setting limits on when and where they can use their devices while in school. We ask that students “Know Your Zone” as they enter different areas of the school at different times of the day. During passing periods, the hallways are a “green zone” and students are allowed to check their phones. *During class time, the hallways are a “red zone” as we do not want students spending extra time in the hall during instructional time.* Setting limits on electronic device use helps our students have a healthy understanding of appropriate phone usage. If an emergency arises and a student needs to use a phone during a time when they are in a “No Zone” or a “Red Zone,” they should ask their teacher or staff member to go to their House Office to use their phone.

We encourage you to continue to help your children become responsible digital citizens by setting appropriate limits such as no cell phone during meal times, turning their devices in at a certain time each night, sharing passwords, etc. The links below provide additional information regarding digital citizenship:

- <https://www.screenagersmovie.com/>
- <https://www.commonensemedia.org>
- <http://www.connectsafely.org/>

Attached in the Cell Phone/Technology Agreement that is used at Arlington High School. Please join us in helping our students be responsible digital citizens.

Thank you,



Paul Fanuele, EdD
Executive Principal

Arlington High School Cell Phone/Technology Agreement

The procedures listed below are designed to encourage Arlington High School to embrace cell phone/technology use in an educational setting while clearly establishing appropriate use and behavior. This agreement lies at the very core of proactive positive behavior and personal growth.

<u>AHS: Areas or “Zones”</u>		
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Green Zone:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Cell Phone/technology use permitted for educational and/or recreational purposes · For appropriate use only 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Red Zone:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Cell Phones/technology is restricted · Allowed only with adult permission · For educational use only 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>“NO” Zone:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Cell Phones/technology may not be used at any time, under any circumstance

Examples of appropriate use:

- Researching information
- Listening to music with headphones
- Healthy communication via Texting
- Charging devices at home
- Digital note taking
- Calendar planning
- Appropriate gaming
- Productive collaboration

Examples of inappropriate use:

- Speaking on phone
- Video/picture taking
- Sexting
- Cheating/sharing answers
- Cyber bullying, harassment, threats
- Playing games violent in nature

<u>AHS: Designated Zones</u>		
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Green Zone:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Library · Cafeterias · Senior Lounge · Before and after school · School Buses · Outside the building · Hallways during passing time 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Red Zone:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Classrooms · *Hallways during instruction · Computer labs · Theaters · House Offices · Gyms · Weight Rooms · ISS/Detention/AIP · Dance Studio 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>“NO” Zone:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Locker rooms · Bathrooms · Exam rooms · During all emergency drills · During lockdowns · During shelter-in-place · During evacuations · During fire evacuations

**Hallways during instructional time will be a area of focus for AHS during the 2018-2019 school year.*

Administrative Procedures: Violation of this agreement may result in confiscation of your cell phone/technology for the remainder of the instructional period. Continued violation of this agreement may result in the confiscation of your cell phone/technology for the remainder of the school day, as well as the appropriate disciplinary action. Under these conditions, ***a parent/guardian must pick up their son/daughter’s cell phone/technology from the appropriate administrative office no earlier than the end of the current school day.*** Some inappropriate cell phone/technology use may result in criminal charges.

Please Note: The school is not responsible for lost or stolen property and cannot conduct investigations to recover such missing property. If an individual chooses to bring a cell phone or other device onto school grounds they are solely responsible for their own property and may not allow this decision to disrupt the education process.