

## **CELL PHONE USE IN SCHOOLS**

This summer Manitoba Education pushed out a new mandate on personal device use. Key things to apply from the AP are personal devices would include tablets, e-readers, smart phones, MP3 players, smart watches and electronic toys. For K to 8 students the entire school day on campus will be device or cell phone free. Our senior year students and NITT students are device free during class time. Staff are expected to not create a double standard by being on their devices during class time or supervision. Medical needs that require a device will follow our normal procedure that requires the creation of a Student Support Plan. The goal of this AP is to ensure our students and staff are engaged in learning and play, plus give our students a safe environment free from devices. Just like I cannot text and pay attention to driving, we cannot be on a device and learn. We expect our teachers and school leaders to support this responsible device use by implementing the following: Step 1 – verbal classroom teacher reminder. Ask for phone to go to locker or cabinet if required. Step 2 – classroom teacher warning that explains next step. Step 3 – Office referral with cell phone turned over to school leader and securely stored until end of day.

Parent communication occurs if severe or reoccurring. The above steps are intended to be delivered as a teacher not a disciplinarian.

Yours in education,

Rob Tomlinson, Superintendent