



ST. VINCENT PALLOTTI CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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WE INSPIRE. WE CHANGE LIVES.

09/25/2023

Dear Parents and Guardians,


We are making a change to our cell phone policy. As you know, we do not allow cell phones to be on a student during the day. Once students are dropped off, they know to put their phones away in their bags and turn them off, or to turn them into his or her teacher.

This year, we have already experienced a series of events where students are creating online content during and after school and posting it online. The vast majority of people in our community do not want their children posted in videos online without explicit permission. As a faculty and staff, we also do not want it happening. Thus, we are making an adjustment, effective immediately, to our cell phone policy.

1. Cell phones are not allowed to be taken out by students on school property, either before, during, or after school. If a student is caught with a phone after school, he or she will receive an automatic demerit. Before school, the phone will be taken away as we always do, with a parent picking up the phone from me or Mrs. Irwin. A demerit will also be issued in the case of 4th grade and up. For 3rd grade and below, we will contact parents if this happens and will issue a consequence, if necessary.
2. If a student needs to use a cell phone to call parents after school or family on school property, he or she must request permission from a teacher, staff member, or administrator.
3. Students needing to call parents during school hours must go to the office and call from the office. Students are not allowed to make phone calls or texts on their personal cell phones from school during the school day. If a student makes a personal call or text on a cell phone for any reason, they will be subject to discipline. At Pallotti, students must tell adults of any issues and the adult decides who is making the call, if a call is to be made.
4. Any student that creates online content (TikToks, Snapchats, any type of video, etc) is risking his or her status as a student at Pallotti. We are very serious about this as there are all sorts of legal safety and privacy issues that go along with creating online content. In our view, elementary and middle school aged students are almost always poor judges of what might or might not be appropriate to post. We do not allow it.

We will allow a one-week grace period after school for students to have their phones out with us telling them to put them away. On Monday, October 2 demerits will be issued for anyone violating this policy. There is no grace period for creating online content or having a phone on your person, as we are already in operation on those rules.

Thank you for your cooperation,


Joe Fryda

Principal

St. Vincent Pallotti School