



Seycove Secondary School

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April 1, 2019

Attention: Parents and Students

Cell phones have become a way of life, a technological convenience that has impacted all of our lives in one way or another. However, in the school environment, cell phones have become a distraction, interruption, and a method of illegal exchange of information. The ringing/vibration of the cell phone during class or text-messaging takes away from the valuable time needed for instruction and most importantly, student learning.

In the student's agenda book, the following policy regarding cell phones and personal technology is outlined (page 13).

The agenda book can be found at:

[https://www.sd44.ca/school/seycove/About/agenda/Documents/Seycove%20Agenda%20Book%202018-2019%20\(final\).pdf](https://www.sd44.ca/school/seycove/About/agenda/Documents/Seycove%20Agenda%20Book%202018-2019%20(final).pdf)

Cell Phones and Personal Technology

*The safety and privacy of all staff and students at Seycove is of paramount importance. While cell phones are a routine part of safety and communication in students' lives, **operation of such items cannot disrupt the learning environment of the school.***

Electronic devices (cellphones, iPads, laptops) CAN BE USED in class to help meet the course learning outcomes. Explicit teacher permission must be obtained prior to use. The following uses of a cell phone are considered appropriate, and ARE permitted:

- **Teacher-directed activities**
- **Accessing the School app** for planning and recording homework at a designated time

The following uses of a cell phone are considered inappropriate, and are NOT permitted:

- **Texting and/or gaming** during class time
- **Recording in a class** without expressed permission of a teacher (strictly forbidden)

When arriving in class, students are expected to put their cell phone away in a place where it will not be a distraction to themselves or to others (in their backpack or locker). If a student is using their phone after having been asked to put it away by the teacher, they may be directed to the administration for further disciplinary action, which may include loss of cell phone privileges while at school.

Teachers will be working together to maintain an environment of proper cell phone use in their classrooms. We do recognize that cell phones can be a safety/security tool; however, they can be a detriment in the event of a building emergency and our protocol to manage such emergencies in a safe and effective manner.

Parents are urged to utilize the school phone to relay any messages that may be urgent in nature to their child. We will do our best to relay any urgent information to your child.

If a student is using their phone after having been asked to put it away by the teacher, the following consequences will be followed:

1st offense:

- Cell phone confiscated and given to administration for the school day. Student will sign for the cell phone at the end of the day in the office.

2nd offense:

- Cell phone confiscated and given to administration for the school day. A call/email will be made home with the requirement for a parent/caregiver to collect the phone on their child's behalf.

3rd offense:

- Cell phone confiscated and given to administration for the school day for up to three (3) days. The phone is dropped off at the office in the morning and picked up at the end of the day.

Additional offenses:

- At the discretion of the administration

Every adult in the school has the responsibility to protect the learning environment and that includes confiscating cell phones during the school day (8:30-3:00pm). Failure to comply with a reasonable request of any adult will result in serious consequences.

We would ask that you further discuss this issue with your child. We ask that you remind your child that a cell phone is a privilege and that they are responsible for their own phone. Remind them not to share their phones with others. If another student is caught using their phone, the phone will still be taken and the steps listed above will apply to the owner of the phone.

Our goal is to create a safe environment, conducive to learning, and free of all distractions that hinder the learning process. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact school office.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

Seycove Administration and Staff