

EBHS --- **ELECTRONIC MESSAGING POLICY**

In order to help minimize distractions and prevent academic dishonesty, the following policy will be used with regards to any and all forms of electronic messaging:

Use of electronic messaging devices is NOT allowed ANY WHERE on campus (whether inside the school or outside of the building) during designated class periods (bell to bell) – including TAG. Electronic messaging devices must be turned off and put away during class time. Students on “spare” MAY use their electronic devices for appropriate, unrestricted purposes in the “cafeteria” area only. Appropriate, unrestricted use of electronic messaging devices is permitted anywhere on campus during breaks between classes, as well as during the designated lunch time. Recognize that as soon as the bell has chimed, the class period has started... the bell is NOT the signal for electronic messaging devices to be put away... if a student is still using the device after the bell has chimed, even if it is to turn it off, it could be considered a violation of this policy and consequences as outlined below can be instituted.

Teachers MAY allow students to use an electronic messaging device for applications/functions other than messaging – within their own classroom. This will be different for every teacher. **It is the student’s responsibility to know and follow their individual teacher’s guidelines for such use. Failure by students to meet each teacher’s individual classroom expectations will be treated as defiance and not as an electronic messaging violation.**

Please note: It is NOT up to the teacher to have to prove whether a student is using their device for messaging purposes or not. **Students are not to put themselves or the teacher in a position to have to decide for what purpose the device is being used... in such cases, the action in question will be considered a violation of the electronic messaging policy, with possible consequences as outlined below.**

Students who choose to violate the electronic messaging policy may be given the following consequences, depending on the timing of the offense and previous related/unrelated discipline issues:

First Offense: Teacher asks the student to turn off the device and put it away. The teacher uses the opportunity to “teach” the student about a more appropriate time/place for such actions.

Second Offense: Electronic messaging device confiscated by EBHS staff at the time of the incident and turned over to the office. Student may pick up the item at the end of the day after a discussion with administration about further consequences should another violation take place.

Third Offense: Electronic messaging device confiscated by EBHS staff at the time of the incident and turned over to the office. Students will be required to turn their messaging device into the office at the start of the day for 10 consecutive school days. Student may pick up the item at the end of the day after a discussion with administration. Failure by students to comply with this consequence will be considered defiance, resulting in further, more severe consequences. Administration will contact a parent/guardian and explain the immediate consequence, as well as future consequences... if required.

Further Offenses: Electronic messaging device confiscated by EBHS staff at the time of the incident and turned over to the office. Depending on the timing of previous messaging violations, other discipline issues, etc., future consequences may include, but are not limited to, any of the following: In-school and/or Out-of-school suspension(s), longer time intervals for confiscation of the device at the office, parent meeting before returning to regular classes, messaging device contract, etc.

PLEASE NOTE:

Any use of an electronic device that is deemed inappropriate by EBHS staff (i.e. inappropriate photographs, recording/video taping, harmful messages, etc.) will result in confiscation of the device, possible consequences as listed above, as well as the possibility of police involvement.

Students do NOT get a fresh start with this policy at the start of a new semester.

Students bring these devices to school at their own risk. Prairie Rose School Division, its faculty/staff are NOT responsible for any damaged, missing, or stolen electronic devices. Any use or misuse of such devices will be the sole responsibility of the person who brought the item to the school initially --- this includes any and all financial responsibility that could have been prevented by not having the device at the school in the first place.