

Cell Phone Presentation

Presenters:

Nate Swenson, Assistant Superintendent


Patrick Bass, Principal

Chris Holden, Principal

Jenn Carter, Assistant Principal

Cell Phones in EPS



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- TOPIC 1:** Mission/Vision & Strategic Initiatives
 - TOPIC 2:** Feedback from Stakeholders
 - TOPIC 3:** Assistive Technology
 - TOPIC 4:** Safety Considerations
 - TOPIC 5:** Infraction Data



Vision/ Mission & Strategic Initiatives



For *each and every student* to
DISCOVER their possibilities
and thrive





EDINA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

is a *dynamic* learning community
delivering educational *excellence*
and preparing all students to
realize their full potential





Our **MISSION**

Through academics, activities, and opportunities, we encourage creativity, foster curiosity, and develop critical thinking skills.

We support every student's educational journey by creating a caring and inclusive school culture that supports the whole student.

Edina Strategic Initiatives



Strategy B: Ensure an Equitable and Inclusive School Culture

2. Create a school culture that enhances learning and fosters a sense of belonging for all students through our values of Integrity, Compassion, Courage, Commitment, Appreciation and Responsibility.

Strategy C: Foster Positive Learning Environment and Whole Student Support

4. Create environments that are conducive to learning and facilitate constructive student interaction.

Strategy E: Engage Parents, Schools and Community

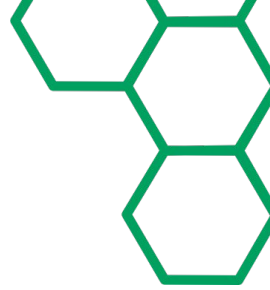
1. Provide engagement opportunities and information about Edina Public Schools to the community so that all community members feel connected and know how to contribute to our collective success.



Feedback from Stakeholders

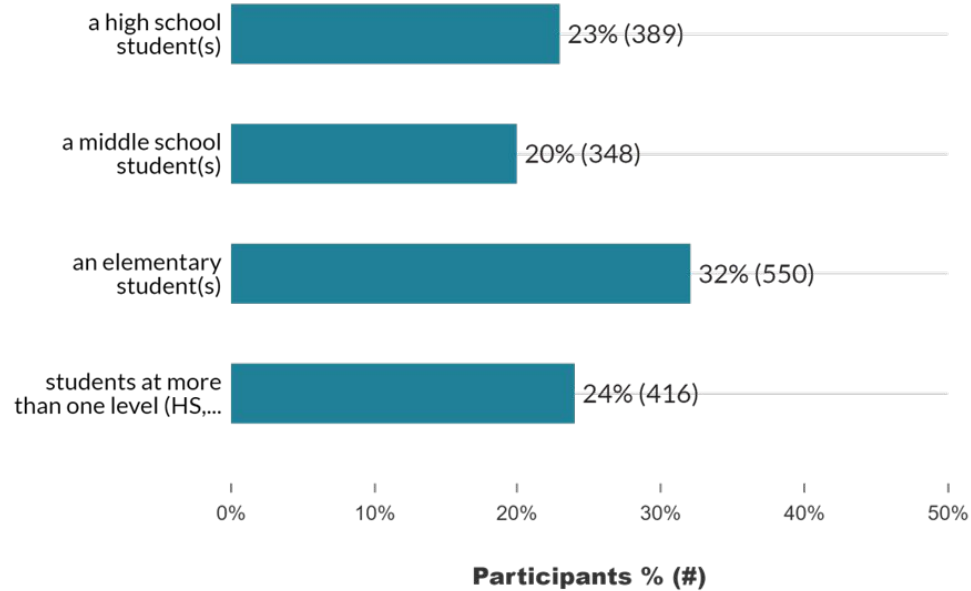
Survey Details - response rate

- 1) 1729 responses from families (~ 33%)
- 2) 466 responses from staff members (~ 29%)
- 3) 9 responses from Administrative Assistants (100%)
- 4) 541 responses from EHS students (~20%)
- 5) 1580 responses from MS students (~78%)
- 6) 476 responses from Elem students - grades 4 & 5 ONLY (~36%)



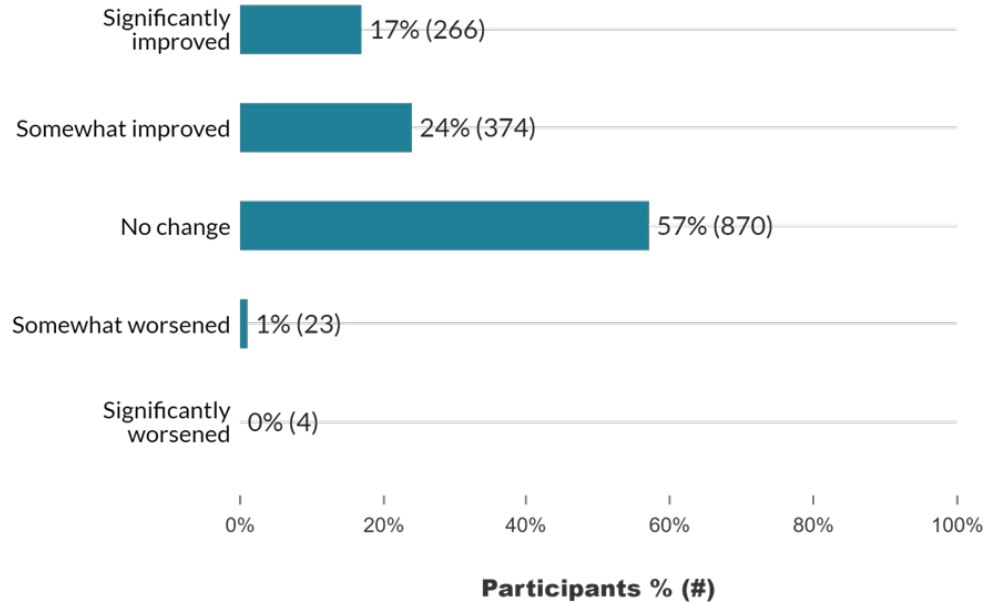
Feedback from Families

I am participating as a parent/guardian of:



Feedback from Families

How has the new cell phone policy affected your child's focus in school?

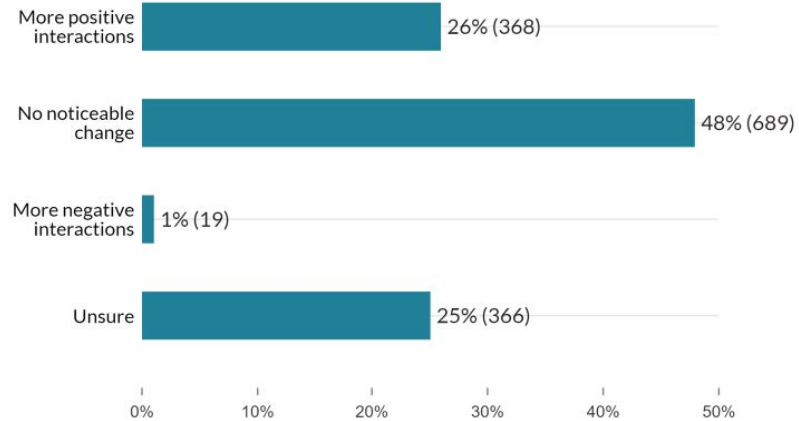


Feedback from Families



PARTICIPATION Breakdown of Participation

What changes, if any, in your child's social interactions at school have you noticed since the new protocols were implemented?

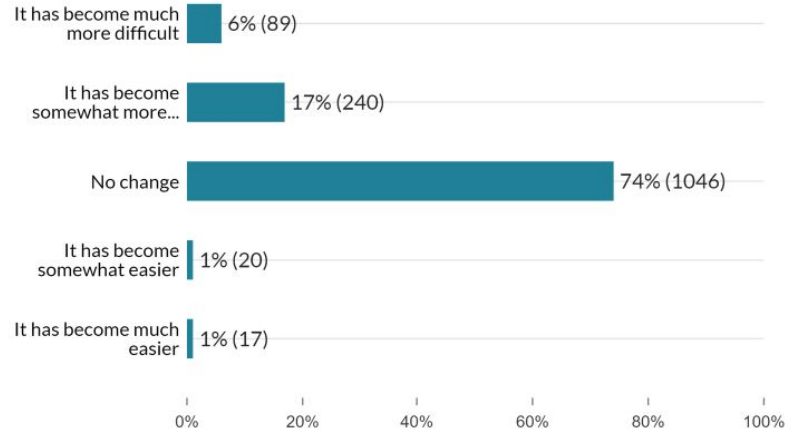


Feedback from Families



PARTICIPATION Breakdown of Participation

How have the new cell phone protocols affected your ability to communicate with your child during school hours?

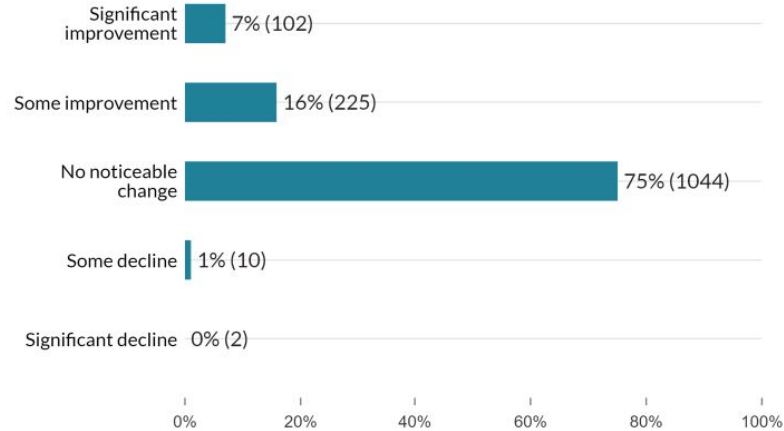


Feedback from Families



PARTICIPATION Breakdown of Participation

Have you noticed any improvements in your child's academic performance since the implementation of the new protocols?

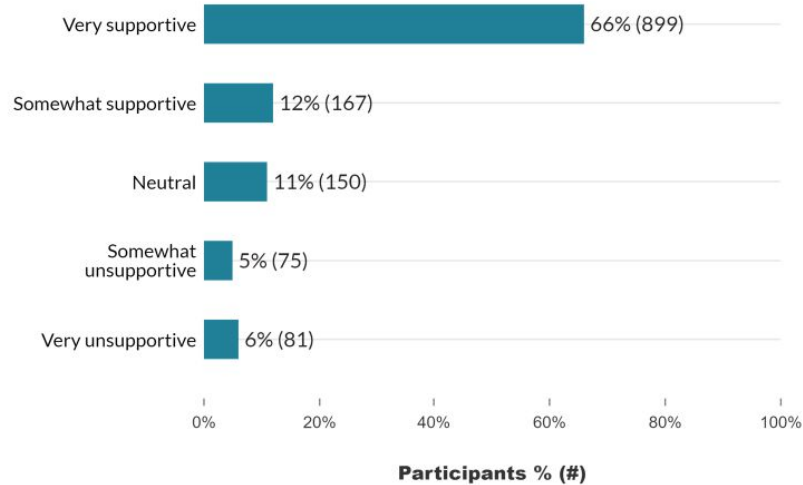


Feedback from Families



PARTICIPATION Breakdown of Participation

Overall, how supportive are you of the new cell phone protocols?



Feedback from Families



PARTICIPATION Breakdown of Participation

How do you primarily communicate with your student(s) during school hours now? (Select all that apply)

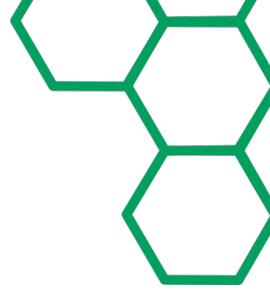


1365
Responses

| % | | Answer <i>(Multiple select)</i> |
|-----|-------|---|
| 31% | (426) | Through the school office |
| 33% | (444) | Via email (student's school email account) |
| 23% | (315) | Through a teacher or staff member |
| 61% | (827) | We wait until after school hours to communicate |
| 17% | (238) | Other |



Feedback from Families



Do you have any suggestions for improving our cell phone protocols?

Overall Support:

The majority of respondents strongly support the new cell phone protocols.

Many parents appreciate the focus on reducing distractions and improving learning environments.

Implementation and Enforcement:

Some report inconsistent enforcement across schools and teachers.

Requests for stricter and more uniform enforcement, especially at the high school level.

Suggestions to remove enforcement burden from teachers.

Policy Scope:

Many support even stricter policies, including complete bans during school hours.

Some suggest extending restrictions to other devices like laptops and Chromebooks.

Debate over allowing phones during lunch or passing periods.

Smart Watches:

Mixed opinions on smart watch restrictions, especially for younger students.

Some parents want allowances for watches in "school mode" for safety and after-school communication.

Communication Concerns:

Some parents worry about emergency communications.

Requests for clearer protocols on how parents can reach students during school hours.

Positive Impacts:

Reports of improved focus, social interactions, and reduced peer pressure.

Appreciation for creating phone-free environments, especially in middle schools.

Feedback from Families



Do you have any suggestions for improving our cell phone protocols?

Suggestions for Improvement:

Consider using lock pouches or central collection points for phones.

Provide more education on responsible technology use.

Improve school-to-parent communication systems.

High School Concerns:

Many feel the high school policy isn't strict enough or noticeably different from before.

Debate over whether high schoolers need more access for real-world preparation.

Policy Awareness:

Some parents are unclear about the specifics of the new policy.

Requests for more regular communication about the policy and its implementation.

Long-term Vision:

Strong support for continuing and potentially expanding the policy.

Calls for Edina to be a leader in creating phone-free learning environments.

Top Response(s) - Support Current or Stricter Policy: 248 responses & Allow Limited Emergency/Parent Communication: 52 responses

Overall, while there is significant support for the new protocols, the feedback indicates a desire for clearer communication, more consistent enforcement, and consideration of age-appropriate policies across different grade levels.

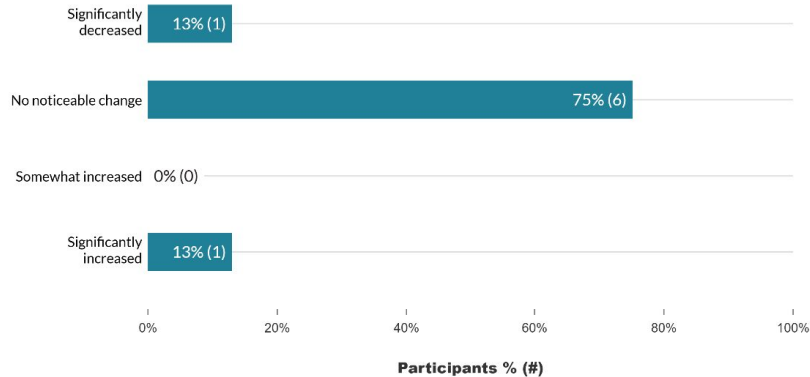
Feedback from Administrative Assistants

Likert Scale

Q1 How has the volume of phone calls you handle changed since the implementation of the new cell phone protocols?

Answered: 8

Not answered: 1



Favorability score

Out of 8 people, this is how many participants voted for Significantly decreased



Significantly decreased

Feedback from Administrative Assistants

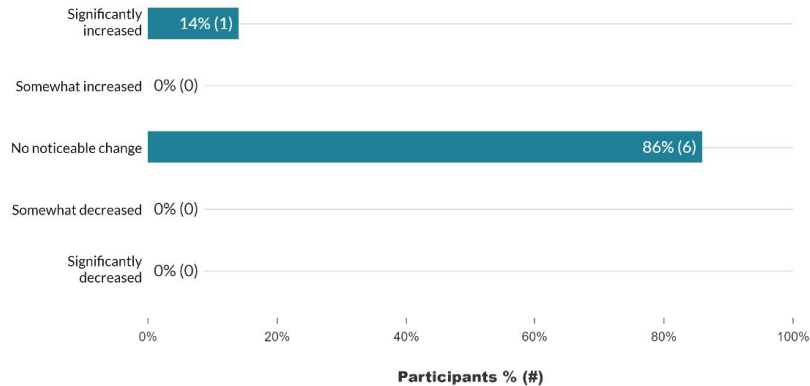


Single select

Q4 How have the new cell phone protocols affected your daily workload?

Answered: 7

Not answered: 2



Feedback from Administrative Assistants

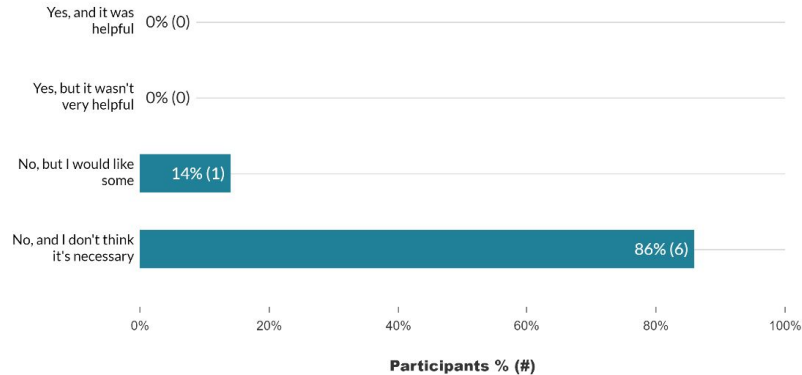


Dropdown

Q6 | Have you received any training or resources to help manage the potential increase in phone traffic?

Answered: 7

Not answered: 2 



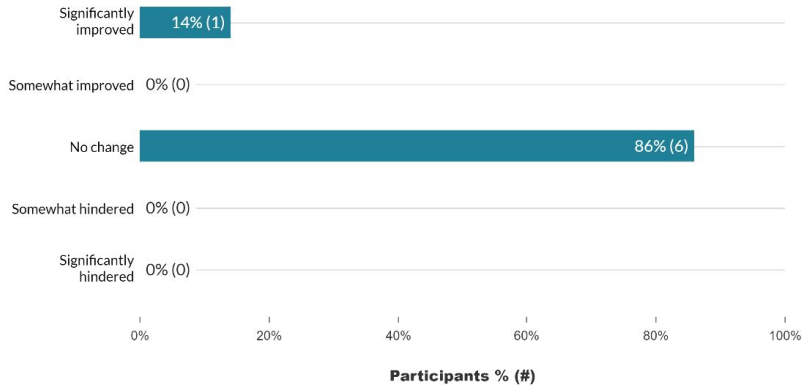
Feedback from Administrative Assistants

Likert Scale

Q8 How have the new cell phone protocols affected your ability to get other work done?

Answered: 7

Not answered: 2



Favorability score

Out of 7 people, this is how many participants voted for **Significantly improved** and **Somewhat improved**.



Significantly improved, Somew... ?

Feedback from Administrative Assistants

Likert Scale

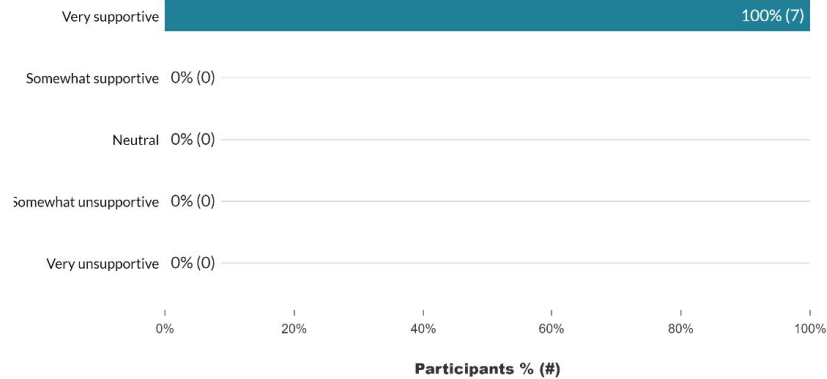
Q9 Overall, how supportive are you of the new cell phone protocols?

Answered: 7

Not answered: 2 ?

BAR

PIE



Favorability score ?

Out of 7 people, this is how many participants voted for **Very supportive** and **Somewhat supportive**. ?



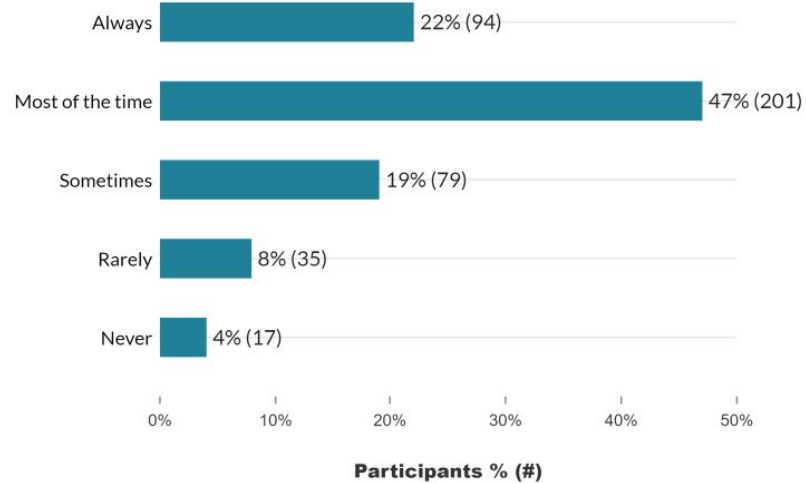
Very supportive, Somewhat sup... ?

Feedback from EHS Students



PARTICIPATION Breakdown of Participation

How often do you follow the new cell phone protocols?

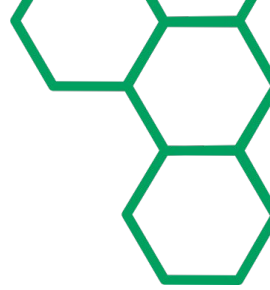
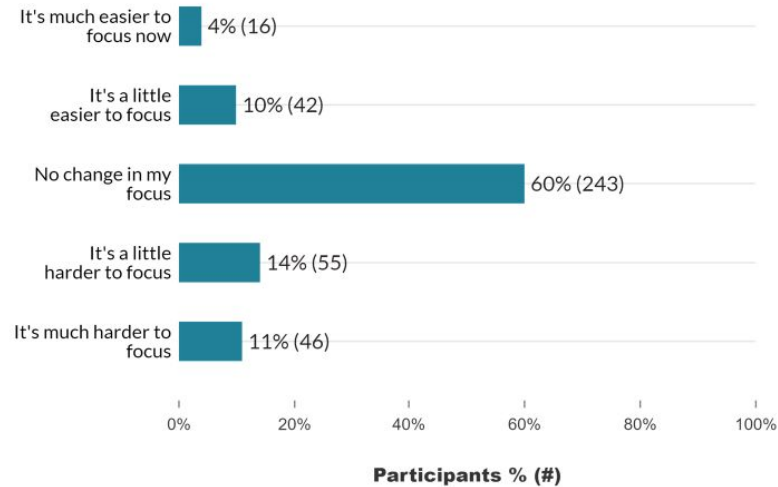


Feedback from EHS Students



PARTICIPATION Breakdown of Participation

How have the new cell phone protocols affected your ability to focus in class?

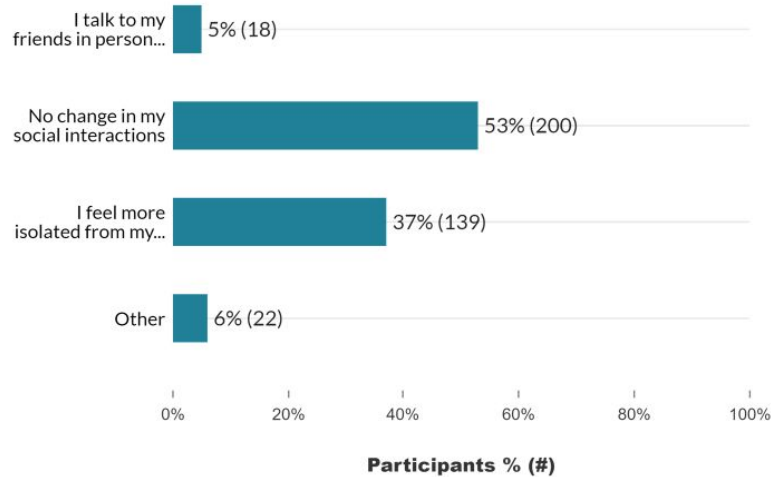


Feedback from EHS Students



PARTICIPATION Breakdown of Participation

How have the new cell phone protocols affected your social interactions at school?

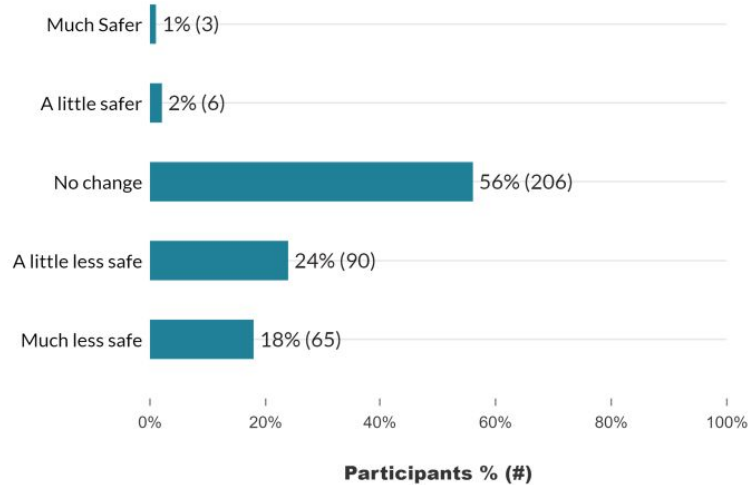


Feedback from EHS Students



PARTICIPATION Breakdown of Participation

Do you feel safer or less safe at school with the new cell phone protocols?



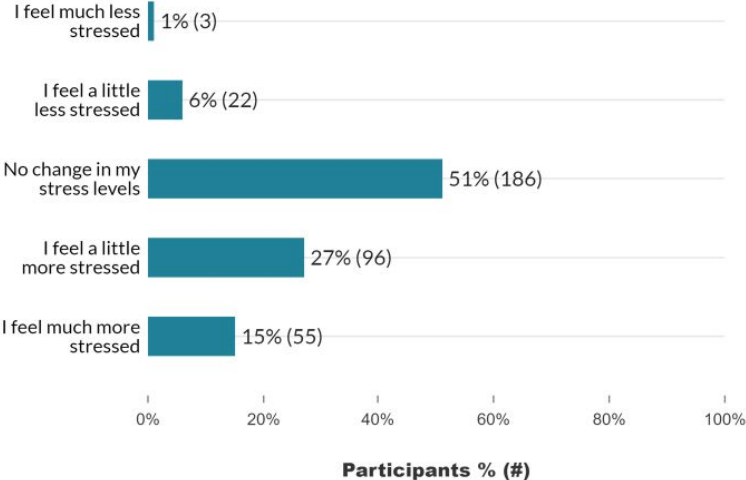
Feedback from EHS Students



PARTICIPATION Breakdown of Participation



How have the new cell phone protocols affected your stress levels at school?

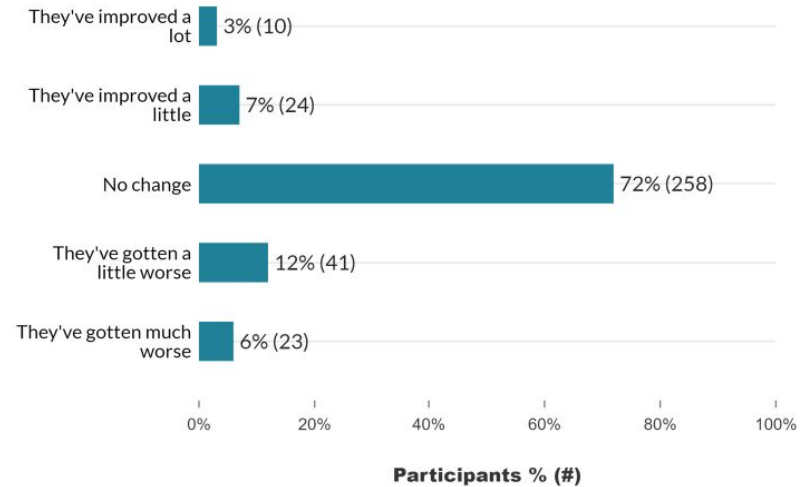


Feedback from EHS Students



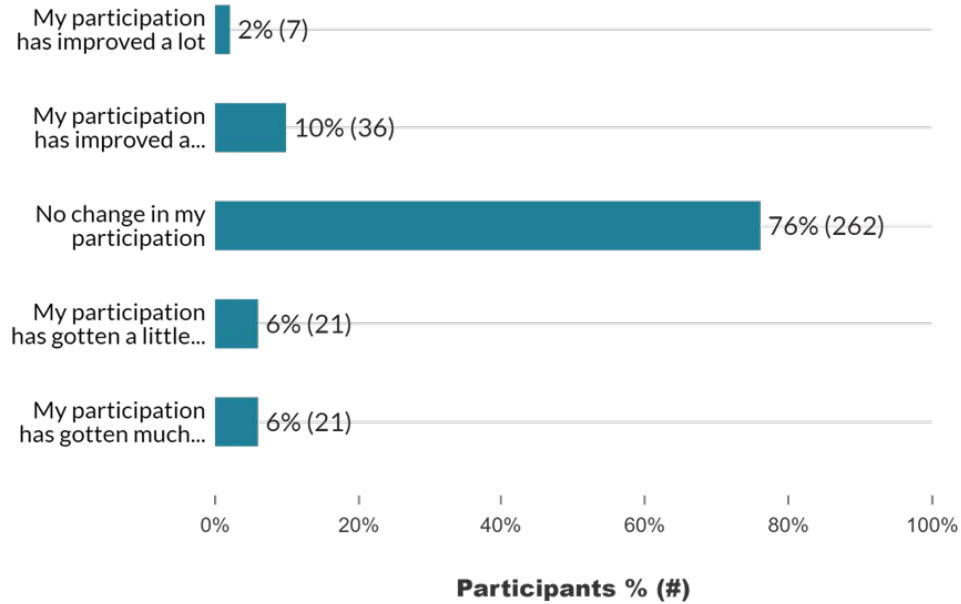
PARTICIPATION Breakdown of Participation

Have your grades changed since the new cell phone protocols started?



Feedback from EHS Students

Has your class participation changed since the new cell phone protocols started?



Feedback from EHS Students

Of the three tiers, which is most often implemented in your classes?



Feedback from EHS Students



If you could change one thing about the cell phone protocols, what would it be?

Desire for More Lenient Policies:

- Many students want more flexibility in phone use, especially during work time or after completing assignments.
- Some suggest allowing phones for music during individual work to aid concentration.

Criticism of Tier System:

- Several students find the tier system confusing or ineffective.
- Suggestions to simplify or eliminate tiers, with some preferring teacher discretion instead.

Concerns About Strict Enforcement:

- Some feel the policy is too harsh, especially regarding immediate confiscation.
- Requests for more warnings before escalating to parent involvement.

Preference for Personal Responsibility:

- Many argue that high school students should have the autonomy to manage their own device use.
- Some believe consequences of phone misuse (like poor grades) should be enough deterrent.

Emergency Access Concerns:

- Several students want to keep phones accessible for emergency communications with family.

Suggestions for Improvement:

- Allow phone use during passing periods or lunch.
- Implement a short daily period for checking messages.
- Differentiate policy based on student behavior or academic performance.

Feedback from EHS Students



If you could change one thing about the cell phone protocols, what would it be?

Support for Stricter Policies:

- A minority of students support stricter enforcement or complete bans.
- Some suggest harsher punishments for repeat offenders.

Inconsistency in Implementation:

- Reports of varying enforcement levels among teachers.
- Confusion about when different tiers apply.

Specific Use Cases:

- Requests to allow phones for educational purposes or as learning tools.
- Desire to use phones when finished with work, even if others aren't done.

Complete Removal of Policy:

- A significant number of students suggest removing the policy entirely.
- Some prefer reverting to last year's less restrictive approach.

Top Response(s) - Eliminate Policy: 32 responses & Less Restrictive Policy: 28 responses

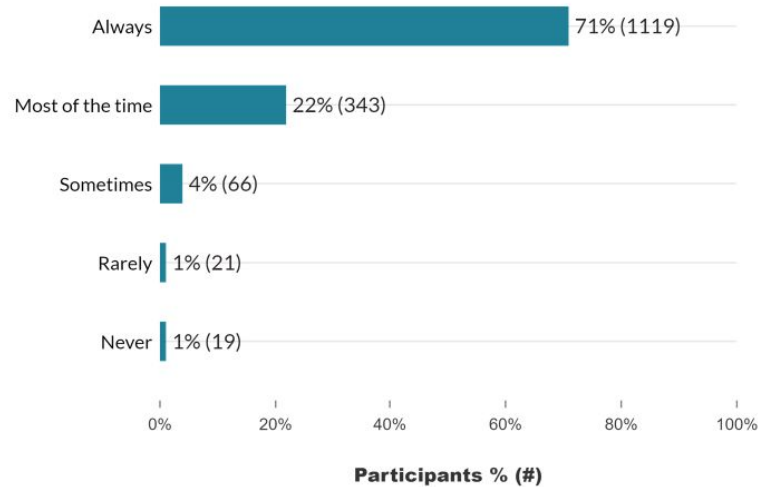
Overall, while there's a range of opinions, most student feedback leans towards desiring more lenient policies or complete removal of restrictions. Many emphasize the need for trust, personal responsibility, and recognition of phones as potential learning tools when used appropriately.

Feedback from MS Students



PARTICIPATION Breakdown of Participation

How often do you follow the new cell phone protocols?

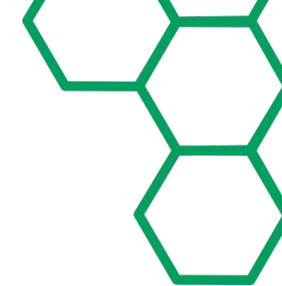
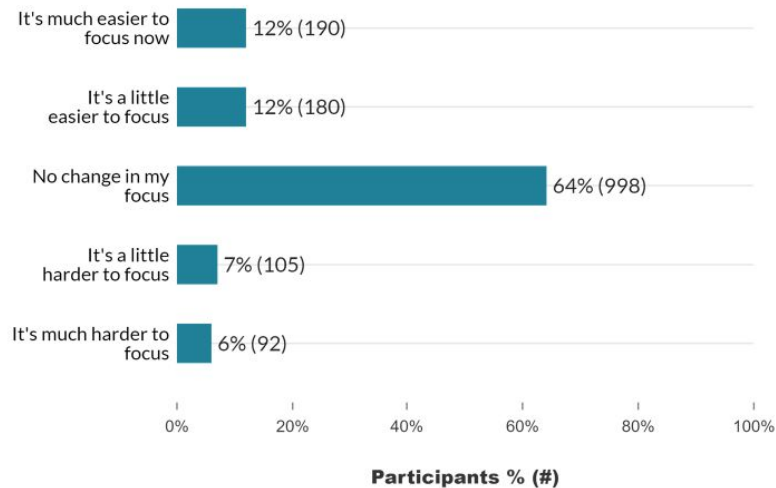


Feedback from MS Students



PARTICIPATION Breakdown of Participation

How have the new cell phone protocols affected your ability to focus in class?

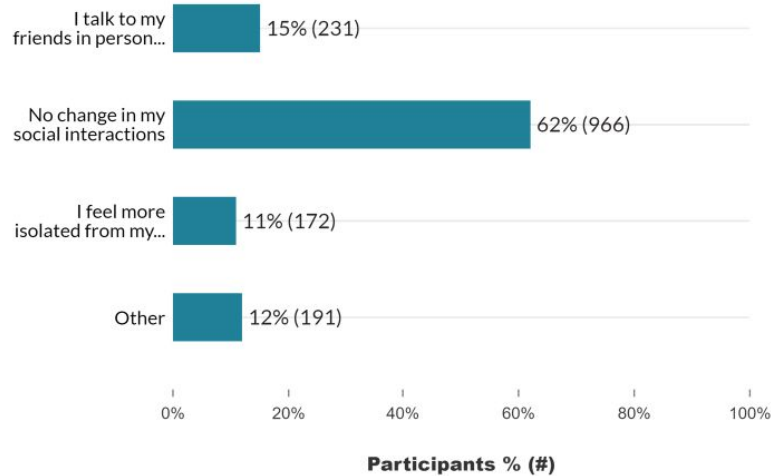


Feedback from MS Students



PARTICIPATION Breakdown of Participation

How have the new cell phone protocols affected your social interactions at school?

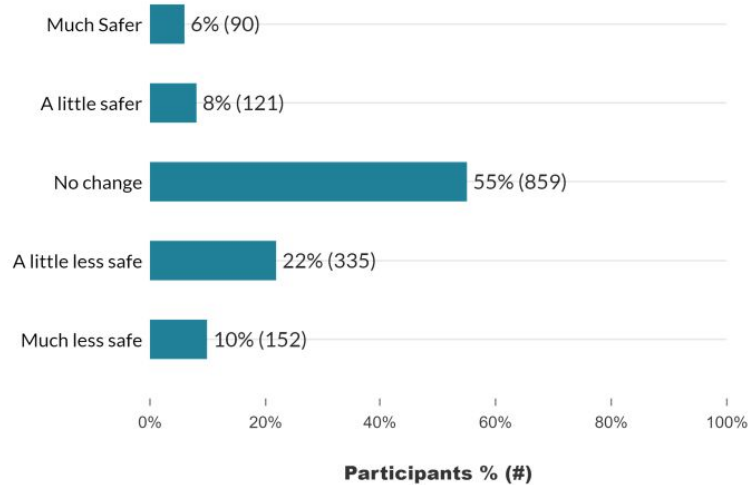


Feedback from MS Students



PARTICIPATION Breakdown of Participation

Do you feel safer or less safe at school with the new cell phone protocols?

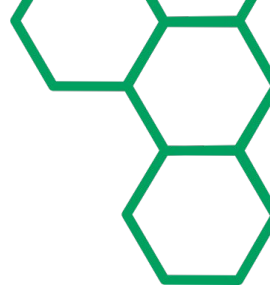
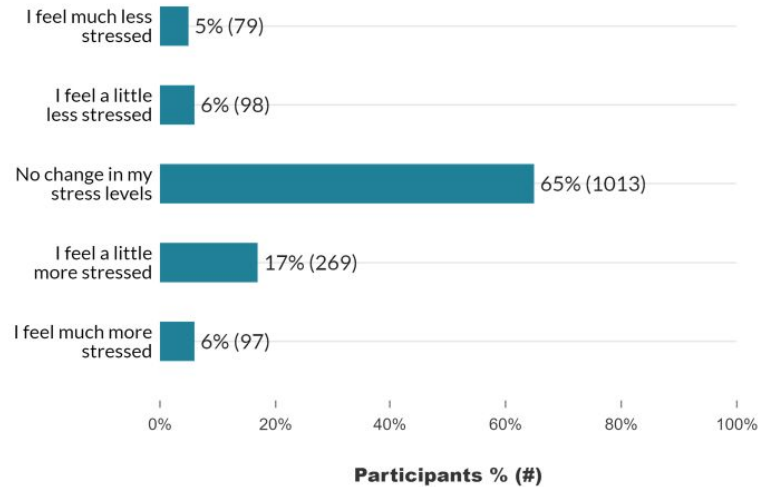


Feedback from MS Students



PARTICIPATION Breakdown of Participation

How have the new cell phone protocols affected your stress levels at school?

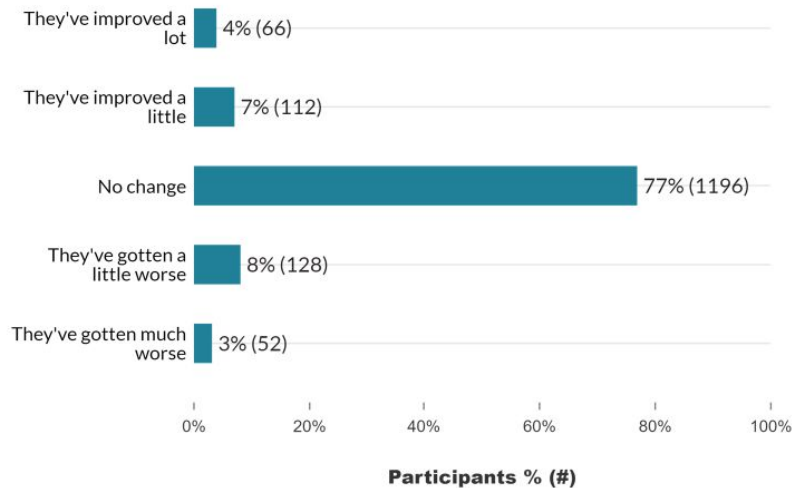


Feedback from MS Students



PARTICIPATION Breakdown of Participation

Have your grades changed since the new cell phone protocols started?

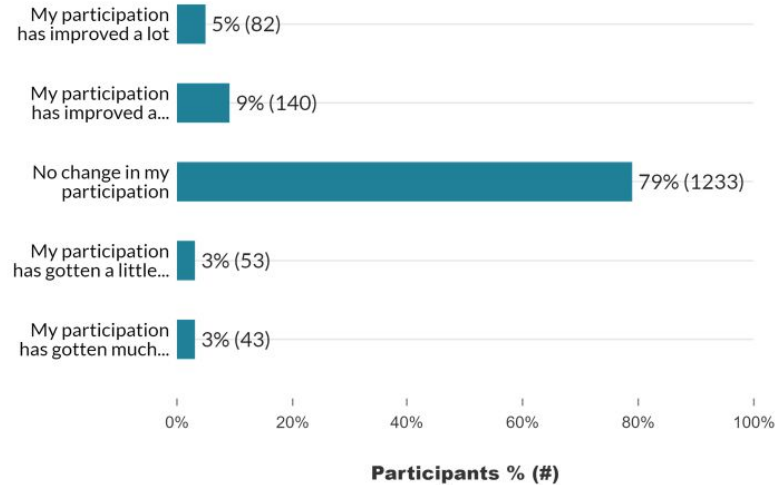


Feedback from MS Students

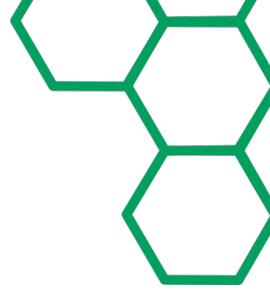


PARTICIPATION Breakdown of Participation

Has your class participation changed since the new cell phone protocols started?



Feedback from MS Students



If you could change one thing about the cell phone protocols, what would it be?

Allow Limited Use Times:

- Many students suggest allowing phone use during lunch, passing times, or before/after school hours.
- Some propose short designated "phone breaks" during the day.

Restore Smart Watch and Earbud Use:

- Significant demand for allowing smart watches, especially in "school mode" for time-checking.
- Requests to permit wireless earbuds or headphones, particularly for music during individual work time.

Emergency Communications:

- Strong desire for ability to contact parents in emergencies or for important communications.
- Suggestions for a system to allow brief parent communications with teacher permission.

Graduated Warning System:

- Many students feel immediate confiscation is too harsh.
- Proposals for multiple warnings before phone confiscation.

Situational Allowances:

- Requests to use phones for educational purposes (e.g., transferring photos to Chromebooks for projects).
- Suggestions to allow phone use after completing all work.

Relax Restrictions in Non-Academic Times:

- Calls to allow phone use during recess, advisory periods, or free time.
- Suggestions for more lenient policies outside of core class times.

Personal Responsibility Approach:

- Some students argue for trusting high schoolers to manage their own device use.
- Proposals for consequences only if phone use becomes disruptive.

Feedback from MS Students



If you could change one thing about the cell phone protocols, what would it be?

Consistency and Clarity:

- Requests for clearer, more consistent enforcement across teachers and classes.
- Some confusion about current policy details.

Maintain or Increase Restrictions:

- A minority of students support maintaining or increasing current restrictions.
- Some suggest stricter enforcement or complete bans.

Alternative Storage Methods:

- Suggestions for phone storage solutions that don't involve sending devices to the office.
- Ideas like classroom phone caddies or teacher-held storage during class.

Top Response(s) - Allow Usage During Specific Times/Places (especially lunch, passing time, emergencies): 172 responses & Allow Watches/AirPods/Wireless Devices: 89 responses

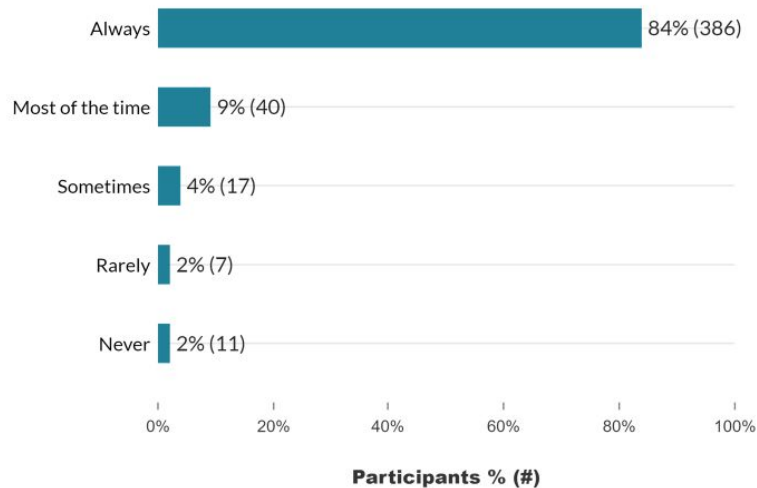
While opinions vary widely, the most common themes center around allowing some limited phone access during the day, especially for parent communication, and relaxing restrictions on watches and earbuds. Many students express a desire for a more nuanced policy that allows for responsible use in certain situations.

Feedback from Elementary Students



PARTICIPATION Breakdown of Participation

How often do you follow the new cell phone protocols?

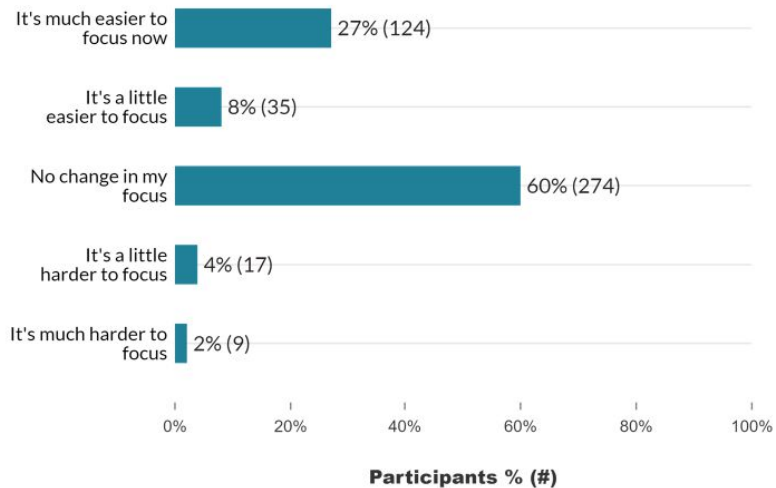


Feedback from Elementary Students



PARTICIPATION Breakdown of Participation

How have the new cell phone protocols affected your ability to focus in class?

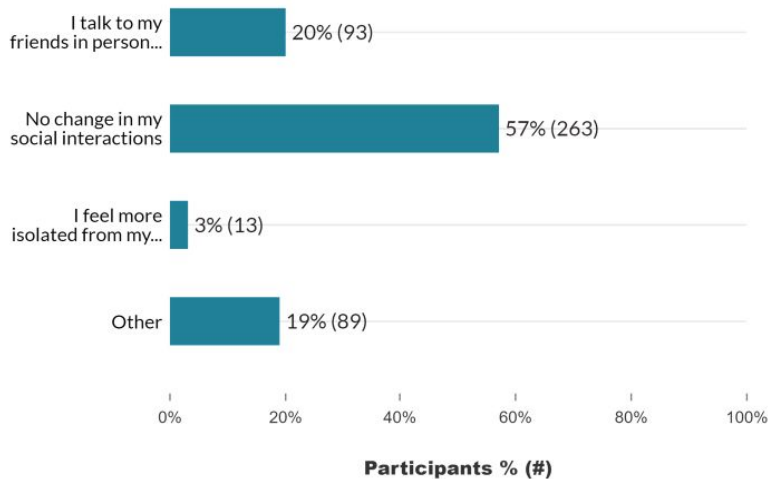


Feedback from Elementary Students



PARTICIPATION Breakdown of Participation

How have the new cell phone protocols affected your social interactions at school?

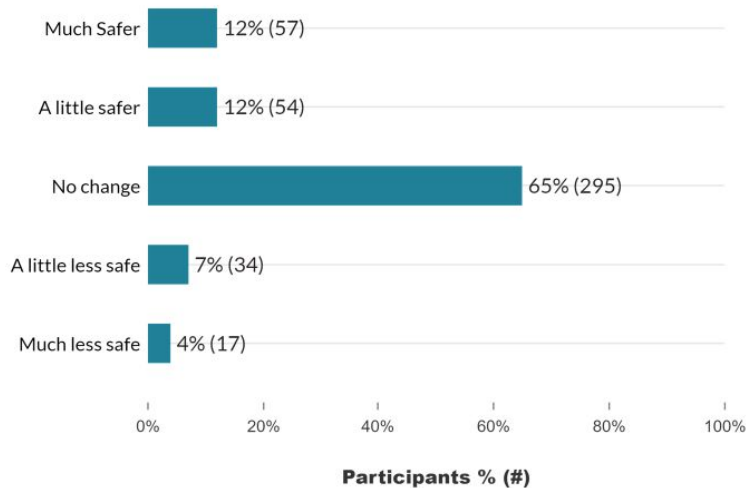


Feedback from Elementary Students



PARTICIPATION Breakdown of Participation

Do you feel safer or less safe at school with the new cell phone protocols?

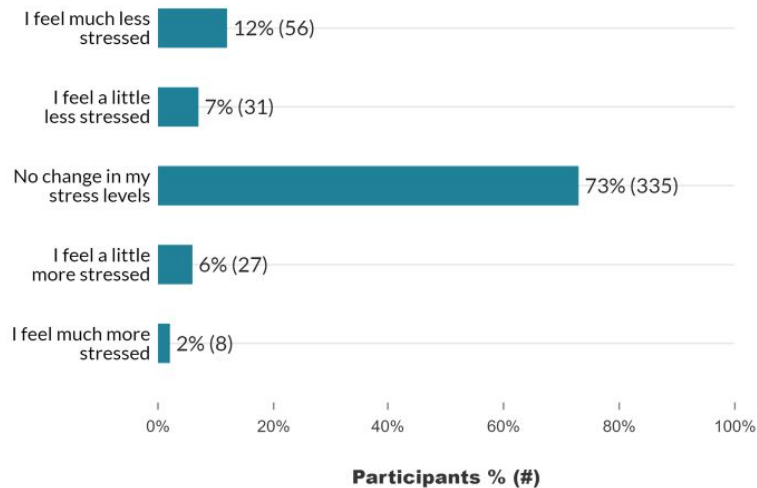


Feedback from Elementary Students



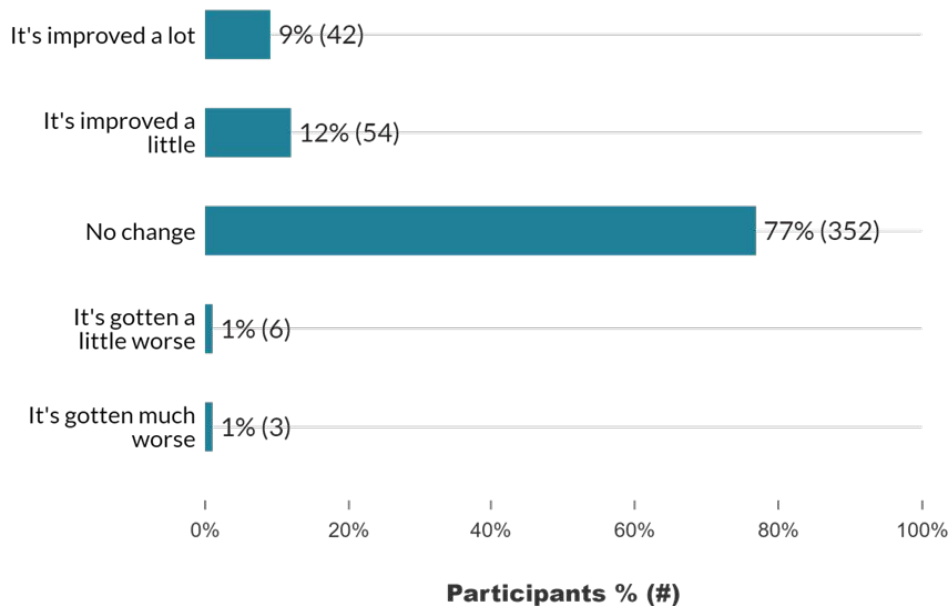
PARTICIPATION Breakdown of Participation

How have the new cell phone protocols affected your stress levels at school?



Feedback from Elementary Students

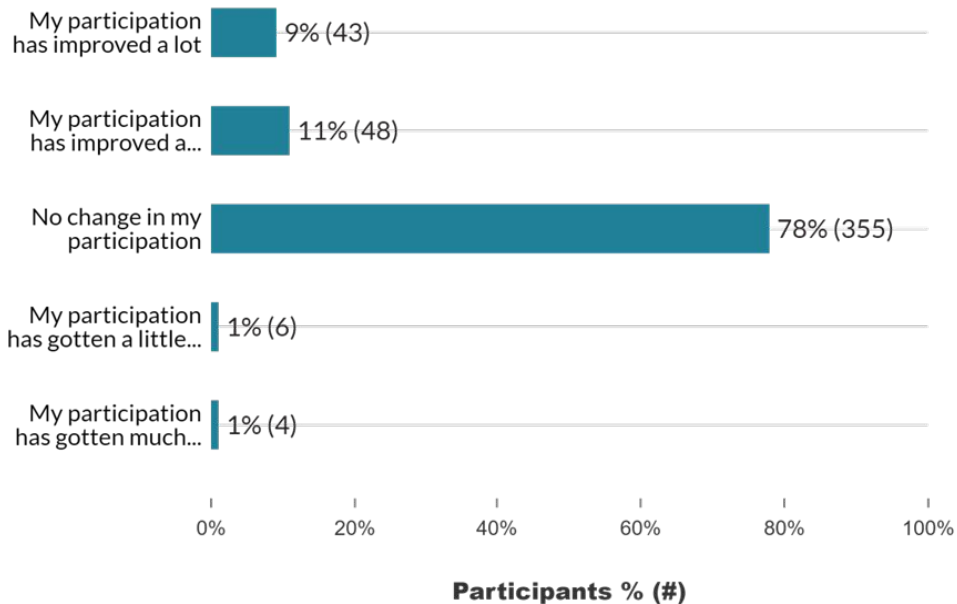
How has your performance in school changed since the new cell phone protocols started?



Feedback from Elementary Students



Has your class participation changed since the new cell phone protocols started?



Feedback from Elementary Students



If you could change one thing about the cell phone protocols, what would it be?

Maintain Current Policy:

- A significant number of students expressed satisfaction with the current policy, stating they wouldn't change anything.
- Many indicated they don't have phones, so the policy doesn't affect them.

Smart Watch Allowances:

- Frequent requests to allow smart watches, especially if set to "school mode" or used only for time-checking.
- Some suggested allowing watches but not phones.

Limited Use Times:

- Suggestions to allow phone use during specific times like recess, lunch, or before/after school.
- Some proposed allowing use on school buses or during transitions between classes.

Emergency Use:

- Many students expressed a desire to have phones available for emergencies or to contact parents if needed.
- Suggestions for designated "emergency only" use policies.

Classroom Storage Solutions:

- Ideas for in-class storage options, such as phone caddies or designated areas to keep devices during class time.

Gradual Introduction:

- Some suggested introducing phones or allowing more usage as students get older or enter middle school.

Feedback from Elementary Students



If you could change one thing about the cell phone protocols, what would it be?

Responsible Use Policies:

- Proposals to allow devices if used responsibly or to implement warning systems before confiscation.

Specific Restrictions:

- Suggestions to allow phones but restrict certain features (e.g., no games, only time-checking).
- Ideas about keeping phones in lockers or backpacks during the school day.

Complete Removal:

- A minority of students suggested stricter policies or complete removal of all devices from school.

Lack of Awareness:

- Some students indicated they weren't aware of the current policy or didn't understand what was being asked.

Top Responses - No Change/Nothing/I Don't Know: 184 responses & Allow Limited Usage (specific times/places - especially recess and emergencies): 58 responses

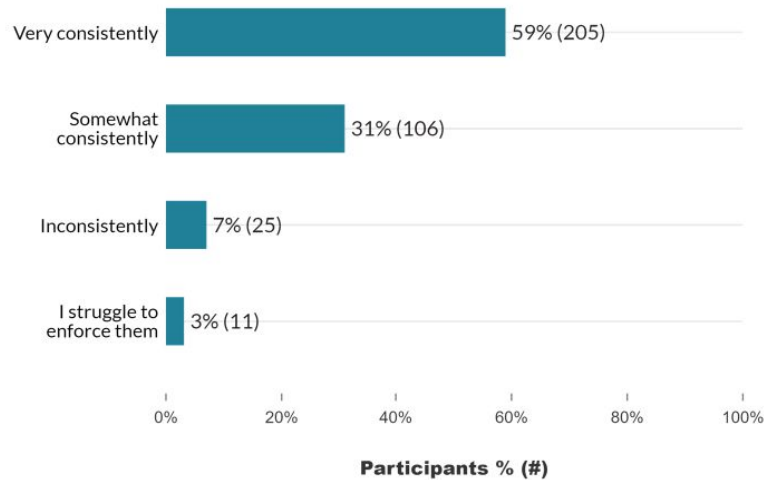
Overall, while many younger students seem content with the current policy or unaffected by it, there's a notable desire for some allowances, particularly for smart watches and emergency communications. The feedback suggests a need for clear, age-appropriate policies that balance safety concerns with the realities of modern technology use.

Feedback from Staff



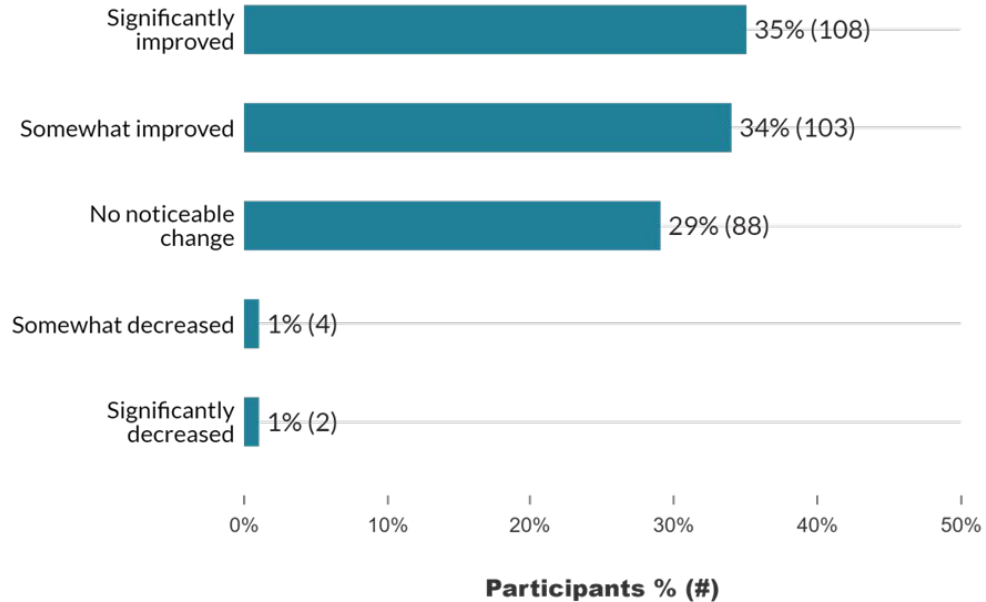
PARTICIPATION Breakdown of Participation

How consistently are you able to enforce the new cell phone protocols?



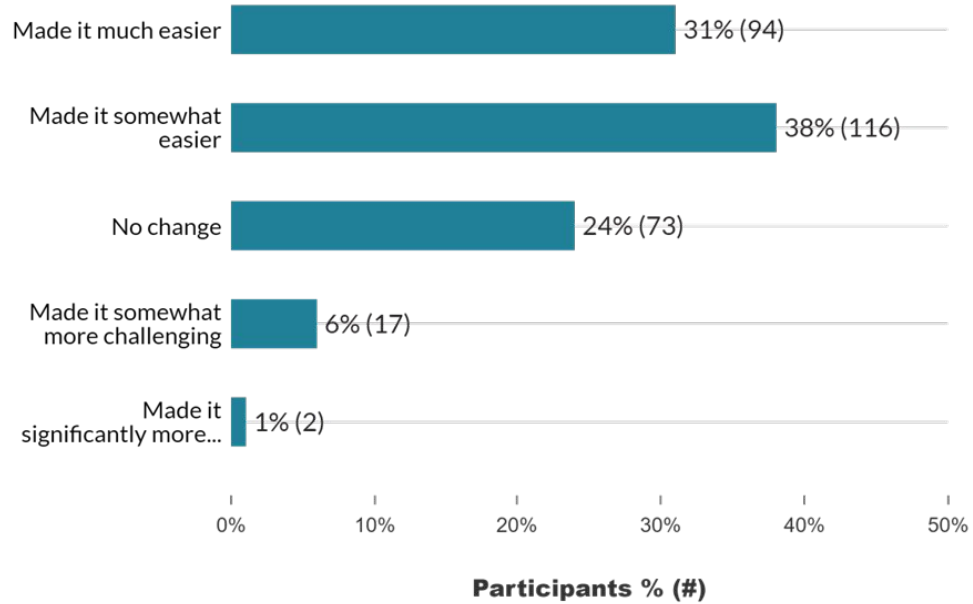
Feedback from Staff

How has student engagement in your classroom changed since implementing the new protocols?



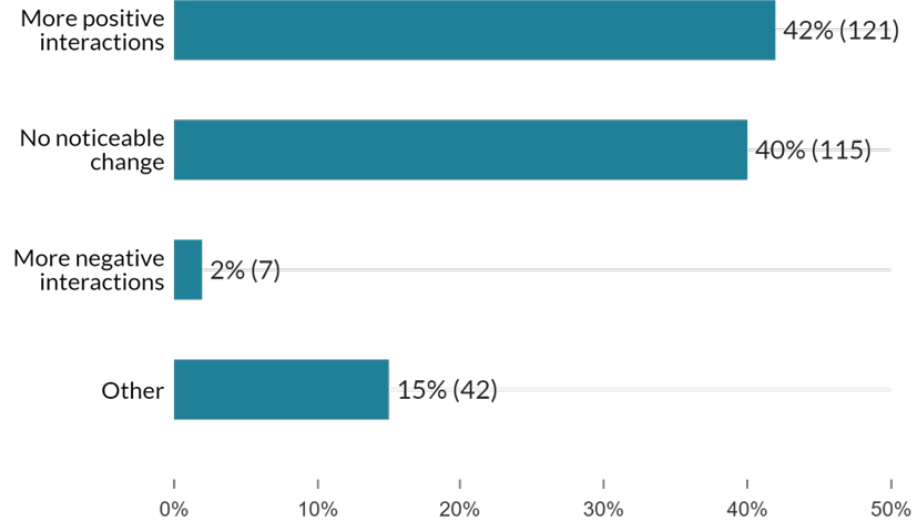
Feedback from Staff

How have the new cell phone protocols affected classroom management?



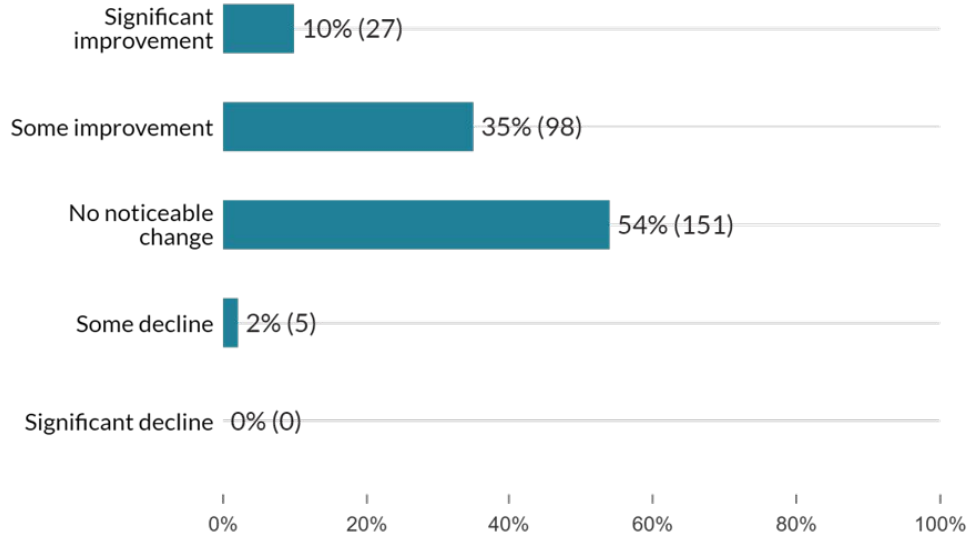
Feedback from Staff

What, if any, changes in student-to-student interactions have you noticed since implementing the new protocols?



Feedback from Staff

Have you observed any changes in student academic performance since the new protocols were implemented?

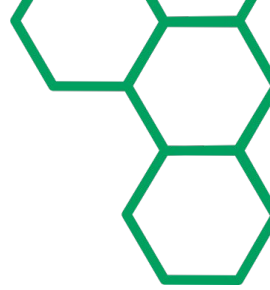
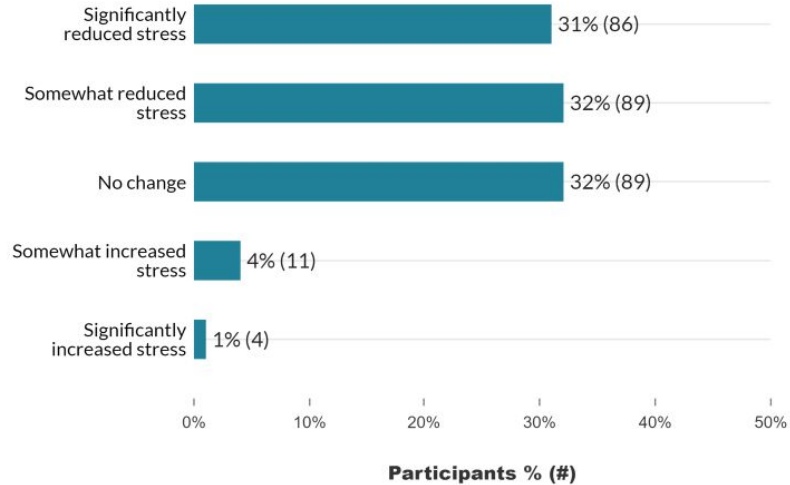


Feedback from Staff



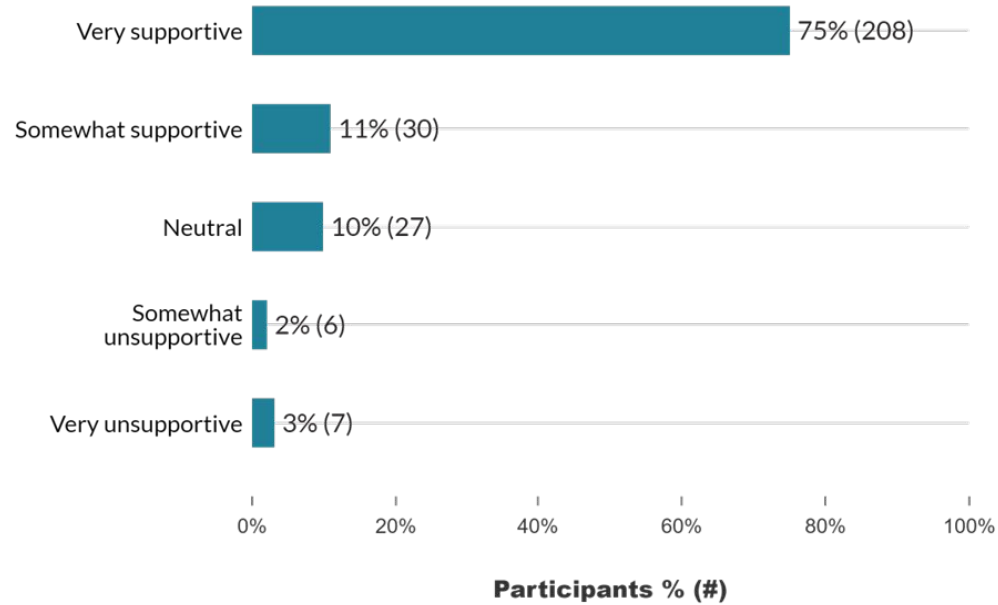
PARTICIPATION Breakdown of Participation

How have the new cell phone protocols affected your stress levels regarding cell phone use in school?

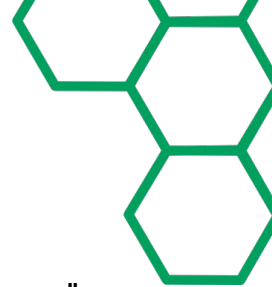


Feedback from Staff

Overall, how supportive are you of the new cell phone protocols?



Feedback from Staff



Do you have any suggestions for improving our cell phone protocols or their implementation?

Strong Support for Current Policy:

- Many staff members expressed satisfaction with the current policy and urged to "keep it up" or "stay the course."
- Several emphasized the importance of consistency in enforcement.

Suggestions for Stricter Enforcement:

- Some staff advocated for even stricter policies, especially at the high school level.
- Proposals included complete bans, phone-free school days, or implementing systems similar to other strict districts.

Implementation Challenges:

- Concerns about the burden on teachers to enforce the policy.
- Requests for more support in dealing with non-compliant students.

Communication Improvements:

- Suggestions for more frequent reminders to families about the policy.
- Requests for clear, consistent messaging across all grade levels.

Storage Solutions:

- Ideas for classroom phone caddies or designated storage areas.
- Suggestions to require students to keep phones in lockers.

Feedback from Staff



Policy Refinements:

- Proposals for tiered intervention responses.
- Suggestions to address smart watches and wireless earbuds specifically.

Expanded Restrictions:

- Some staff suggested extending restrictions to school buses and after-school programs.
- Concerns about students using bathroom passes as an excuse to use phones.

Technology Shift:

- Observations that some students are now using Chromebooks for non-academic purposes instead of phones.
- Suggestions to address this emerging issue.

Positive Impact Noted:

- Several staff members mentioned improvements in learning culture and student focus.

Continued Education:

- Suggestions for more education for students on the "why" behind the policy.
- Ideas for sessions with families about the positive impacts of the policy.

Top Response(s) - No Changes Needed/Keep Current Policy: 98 responses & Make Policy More Strict/Consistent: 31 responses

Overall, while there is strong support for the current policy, staff feedback indicates a desire for continued refinement, consistent enforcement, and addressing of emerging challenges related to other forms of technology.

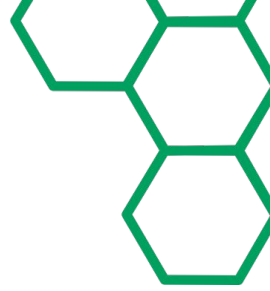


3

**Assistive
Technology**



Assistive Technology



- 1) Assistive Tech impact - Kelli Anderson (Occupational Therapist)
 - a) Cell phones are currently being used on an individual basis for the following reasons:
 - i) Monitor glucose levels (4-6 students)
 - ii) Controlling hearing aids - app that allows them to adjust volume, microphone, etc. from their phone depending on environment (3-5 students)
 - iii) Google Keep - A few students using this as an organizational tool. Working to transfer to computers.

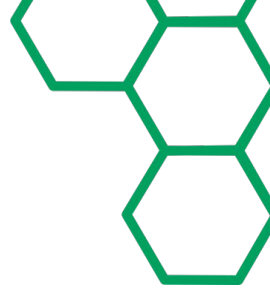


4

**Safety
Considerations**



Safety Considerations



PROS

Student Communication with Parents or Guardians

- May help calm parents and students, limiting trauma
- Can be used by district staff or parents to communicate with students who are missing or displaced from an emergency.

Student Communication with 911

- During an emergency, students will dial 911 if they have a cell phone
- This may shorten the response time of first responders

Security Concerns

- Following an emergency, students will communicate reunification plans with parents before staff are adequately set up to begin the reunification procedure.
- Students in possession of cell phones during emergencies may be distracted by them.
- Students may forget to silence their phones when their safety depends on them hiding from danger.

CONS

Cell phones are *Recommended*



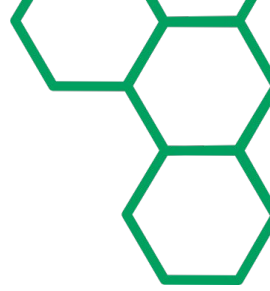


5

Cell Phone Infractions



Infraction Data



As of 10/29/24

- 1) Edina High School - 7
- 2) SV and VV - 254
- 3) Elementary - 1 infraction



QUESTIONS?

Edina Public Schools





THANK YOU

Edina Public Schools

