

## **LPGE K-12 Cell Phone Policy Recommendation- Secondary**

The State of Minnesota has passed legislation through the Department of Education that directs schools to develop a written cellphone policy based on a district wide initiative by March 15, 2025. In order for us to have a discussion on this topic, a number of steps have been taken to assure that all stakeholders have been able to have a voice in this decision before it is presented to the LPGE School Board.

Those steps involve the following, surveys being sent out to staff students and families regarding the use of cellphones as well as the discussion of impending changes to the cell phone policy, information from the MASSP to the school board regarding their "Cell Phone Toolkit" and current policies as they are instituted from surrounding school districts in our area. Along with that, the secondary school has met both at the leadership level as well as the staff level, to have discussions surrounding the implementation of a district wide cell phone policy. Information has been shared to include surveys of staff, students, parents, information from the MASSP- cell phone policy tool kit, information of current policies of surrounding districts and again an internal discussion at the building level pertaining to cell phone usage within the building by students.

Based on our discussion as well as internal polling, the staff are prepared to make a recommendation to the LPGE School Board regarding the implementation of a district wide cell phone policy. The recommendation would be the following:

**Students must keep all cell phones, smartwatches, and any other electronic communication device (not provided by the school) capable of connecting to the internet or outside cellular service, in their lockers during school hours. Cell phones will not be allowed in the classroom except under strict exceptions:**

**The exceptions to this policy will be the following:**

- 1. Students with a health condition warranting the need of a cell phone or electronic device as prescribed by a medical doctor and directed by the office.**
- 2. Those students whose teachers have specifically established the device as part of their curriculum and is set as a basis for the curriculum for a set base of time, i.e. college coursework such as a student enrolled in CLC classes This would be an exception rather than the norm.**
- 3. Students who have it as part of the Individual Education Plan as stated by the IEP team members and the Special Education Department.**

**Students who violate the policy will have their device confiscated and returned at the end of the school day. Students who violate the policy after 12:00 will lose their device for the remainder of the day along with the entirety of the next day. This will be enforced through the staff on campus and the administration.**