

MSAD #70 Cell Phone/Personal Device Bell to Bell Ban

State Law LD 1234

By August 1, 2026, a school board shall adopt and implement a policy prohibiting student use of personal electronic devices for the duration of the school day, from starting bell to dismissal bell. The policy must restrict student use of cellular telephones and other personal electronic devices with Internet or cellular network capabilities.

District Policy JICJ

MSAD #70 School Board approved policy JICJ on June 15th, 2026. The policy bans all cell phone use in schools from the first bell until the last bell.

MSAD #70 Administrative Procedures for Policy JICJ

This procedure applies to all personal electronic devices including smartwatches, tablets, personal laptops, airpods/earbuds with communication capability, and similar devices.

- All students must shut off and place their cell phone/other electronic devices in their backpack or locker when entering the school building each day. Students may access these devices after the last bell of the school day rings and they have left the building. Students may not keep their devices on their person (in pockets of clothing).
- If a student is seen carrying their device on them, using the device, or if the device goes off during the school day then administration will keep the device in the office lock box until a parent or guardian is able to retrieve it. The parent or guardian must be listed in Powerschool for that student.
- If a student is seen breaking the bell to bell ban repeatedly (more than once) they will turn the device into the office lock box each morning when they first arrive and will be able to retrieve it after the last bell. If a student is on the lockbox list and does not turn their device into the office and is found to have it on them they will then be banned from bringing electronic devices on school grounds. Continued refusal may lead up to and including suspension.
- If a student needs to contact a parent or guardian throughout the day they will be able to access the office phone, if available. Parents needing to contact their child should call their student's school.
- Students whose IEP, Section 504 Plan, Individual Health Plan, or other legally required accommodation permits use of a personal electronic device are exempt to the extent

required by that plan. The device will only be used in relation to their legally required accommodation.

Middle/High School

First offense: Parents/guardians must pick their device from the office.

Second Offense: Parents/guardians must pick the device up from the office and the student must store their cellular device in the office lock box for the remainder of the year.

Third Offense: Parents/guardians will meet with administration to discuss disciplinary action.

Mill Pond School

First offense: Students may pick up their phone at the end of the school day.

Second offense: Parents/guardians must pick up their device