**Tobique Valley Middle High School Cell Phone Policy**

Rationale: Our school is a cellular reduced environment. Our student data, staff perception data, PSSC and current research regarding student mental health, technology addiction and engagement indicate that there are too many classroom distractions, addiction to cellphones and social media as well as daytime bullying and harassment of students/staff.

*Cellular expectations:*

* The TVHS Campus is a cellular reduced environment from the hours of 8:00 am-3:00 pm.
  + Cell phones will be silenced and must be passed in at the beginning of class.
  + Cell phones are not to be used during instructional time unless teachers have invited them for a specific, educational purpose.
  + All students will have access to additional technology for instructional purposes through the following means:
    - Computer labs (provided by school)
    - Tablets or netbooks (provided by school)
    - Bring your own device (limited to personal laptop/tablet). As part of the provincial high school experience, all students are required to have their own laptop or tablet. Should you require support in acquiring a laptop, please see the following link to apply for the laptop subsidy program. Link: <https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/services/services_renderer.201514.Laptop_Subsidy_Program.html#:~:text=Once%20your%20application%20is%20approved,the%20Dell%20Latitude%203310%20laptop>.
* Students in need of communicating with parents and guardians during the instructional day may do so in the following way:
  + They may use their phone outside of instructional time.
  + They may use a designated phone located in the office to call if needed.
  + A parent who is need of contacting a youth due to emergency reasons can call the school, 356-6015, and speak with an administrative assistant who will relay the message and or leave a message on the school line should they not be able to answer immediately.
* Students who are unable to meet the expectation of a cellular reduced school environment will be subject to the following consequences:
  + Step 1: The phone will be turned into the office until the end of the day. A parent/guardian will be notified by email.
  + Step 2: Refusal to comply with step one, or on second offense, the student will receive a one-day suspension from school.
  + Step 3: on third offense, the student will receive a 3-day suspension from school and require a re-entry meeting with a parent.
  + Step 4: on fourth offense, the student will receive a 5-day suspension and a long term ban on possession of device(s) at school.

Note: If serious breaches in use of cellular phones occur, more immediate and severe consequences may occur including loss of access to mNB wifi, online account, or a ban of possession of such devices up to the remainder of the school year. Please refer to the student agenda for more information on the use of personal phones and other electronic devices.