

Cell Phone/Pager Policy

The Sussex County Charter School for Technology recognizes that there are valid reasons for students to have cell phones or pagers; however, in the course of the school day, the use of cellular phones and pagers is not needed. All classrooms are connected by phone to the main office allowing the transmission of messages from parents to children in an emergency. In addition, children may call parents/guardians, with permission and without charge, via the office phone at a designated phone time. Therefore it is the policy of this board that these devices will only be allowed only when a written application has been made to and approved by the principal. Application forms may be requested through the office by a parent/guardian. Unauthorized possession/use of either a cell phone or pager will result in consequences established by the school's Discipline Code. All unauthorized use will be subject to disciplinary action.

With this in mind, the administration and Board of Trustees requests that if the parents/guardians choose to allow their student to possess cell phones at school, that they establish an understanding that during school hours, all cell phones or pagers must remain turned off and in lockers or secured out of sight on school property during the school day, or at any school-sponsored events.

Under no circumstances will the Sussex County Charter School for Technology be liable for the theft or loss of any approved or unapproved pagers or cellular phones. Parents/guardians must accept all liability for loss, theft, or unauthorized use of these devices including but not limited to air time charges and/or replacement costs.

Possession of a cell phone by a student is a privilege, which may be forfeited by any student not abiding by the terms of this policy. This policy statement serves as a first warning, detailing the prohibitions and disciplines associated with the Sussex County Charter School for Technology's phone cell phone use policy.

It is therefore the students' responsibility to ensure that all guidelines are followed, if they choose to bring a cell phone to school. Students who violate the above restrictions shall be deemed to have created a disruption in the educational environment and are subject to disciplinary action as outlined below:

1st Offense – phone confiscated and returned only to the student's parent/guardian; one detention assigned.

2nd Offense – phone confiscated and returned only to the student's parent/guardian; two detentions assigned.

3rd Offense – (insubordination) phone confiscated and returned only to the student's parent/guardian; 1 day in-school suspension; loss of cell phone privilege.