

# **Granite Hill School Cell Phone/Electronic Devices Policy**

## **Cellular phones and personal communication devices are prohibited during the school day**

The NH Department of Education passed RSA 189-1a (2025), which prohibits students from using a personal electronic communication device during the academic day, from "bell to bell." Personal electronic communication devices are defined as electronic devices that are capable of making calls, transmitting pictures or video, or sending and receiving messages. This includes all types of phones, such as flip phones and non-smart phones, as well as tablets and wearable devices like smartwatches.

Students are prohibited from having a personal electronic communication device on their person during the academic day from bell to bell. Bell to bell is defined as the period from the start of the school day (8:30 am) to the end of the school day (2:00 pm).

Any such item must be stored in the school-designated area during the school day. Such items should not be carried on the person, in a backpack, or in any other bag. Granite Hill will provide a locked space for all students to store their devices. All students will place their device(s) in their labeled slot as soon as they enter the school building.

Communication during emergency conditions: All staff members have access to communication devices during instructional time and can contact the school office should emergency conditions arise.

Personal wired headphones that plug directly into the school-issued Chromebook/computer will be allowed for instructional purposes as assigned by the teacher when using the school-issued device.

### **Discipline of students**

If a student violates this policy and is found to have a device during school hours, they will be referred to the administration for further action. The student will be asked to turn in the device. If the student refuses, parents/guardians will be notified, and further disciplinary action will be explored. Students who are habitually found to be in possession of their electronic devices may be suspended from school and will be required to attend a re-entry meeting and develop a plan to return.

### **Teachers and staff members**

1. Teachers and staff members will enforce the terms of this Regulation as well as other applicable regulations and policies in a consistent and fair manner.
2. Teachers will not be required to confiscate a personal communication device from a student who is in violation of this Regulation. Students will be sent out of class to the Administration.
3. A staff member will be at the door at the beginning of each school day to assist with the collection and securing of devices from students.
4. Students may not be authorized to use personal communication devices to fill instructional time or to occupy students in lieu of providing instructional activities or as a reward.

Granite Hill School, with the NH Department of Education, is dedicated to providing a distraction-free environment that will help students stay present at school and free from the constant interruptions of personal devices. If you have any questions, please reach out to Sarah Attwood at 603-863-0697 or at [sarah@granitehillschool.org](mailto:sarah@granitehillschool.org)