



Lincolnton Middle School

Cell Phone/Smart Watch Policy

In order to improve security, safety, and academic focus for our students, the cell phone policy for Lincoln County Schools has been revised. Lincolnton Middle School will follow the stipulations of this policy and assigned consequences. Please review the policy with your child.

Lincoln County Schools' Board Policy 4300-R: Student Safety states:

Lincoln County Schools understands that parents today may desire for their child(ren) to have cell phones, smart watches, and other personal electronic devices for safety reasons during and after school.

Secondary Schools:

The middle and high schools in Lincoln County Schools have the autonomy to decide how electronic devices are to be regulated, based upon guidelines suggested by the school improvement team.

At a minimum, the following regulations shall apply to electronic devices in the secondary schools:

- 1) Students may not use electronic devices in classrooms or during instructional time.
- 2) During instructional time, students must turn off all electronic devices and store them out of sight, unless the classroom teacher requires the use of the electronic devices for an instructional exercise. This also applies to ear buds or other listening devices used in conjunction with personal electronic devices.
- 3) The school is not responsible for lost or stolen electronic devices.

Specifically, Lincolnton Middle School holds the following expectations regarding cell phone use during school hours:

- ALL devices, including cell phones, smart watches and ear buds/listening devices, should be turned off and put away in the student's bookbag from the time the student enters the school building until the time the student exits the school building.
- Students will not use cell phones in the cafeteria during breakfast or at lunch.
- Cell phones will not be permitted in the bathrooms during the instructional day.
- Students will not use cell phones in the hallways during transition periods nor will they use them during dismissal while waiting for parent/guardian pick up or waiting for buses.
- In the event that a student needs to contact a parent/guardian, the student should use the phone in the front office. Parents who need to contact students should call the office and a message will be delivered to the student.

If a student chooses not to meet these expectations, the following consequences will be put in place. These are in line with the consequences established in board policy:

1st Offense	The student shall receive a warning about electronic device misuse and the teacher shall notify the office. School staff shall document the incident in the discipline management system.
2nd offense	The electronic device is confiscated and the parent notified by administrator or designee. The student may pick up the electronic device from the office at the end of the day (by 4:00) once parent is informed.
3rd Offense	The electronic device is confiscated, and the parent notified by administrator or designee. The parent may pick up device from the office (by 4:00) and student shall receive up to 1 day of in-school suspension. The student will no longer be allowed to bring an electronic device to school.
4th Offense	The electronic device is confiscated, and the parent notified by administrator or designee. The parent may pick up device from the office (by 4:00) and student shall receive up to 3 days of in-school suspension.
5th Offense	Electronic device is confiscated, and the parent notified by administrator or designee. The parent may pick up device from the office (by 4:00) and student shall receive up to 1 day of out of school suspension.
6th Offense	Electronic device is confiscated, and the parent notified by administrator or designee. The parent may pick up device from the office (by 4:00) and student shall receive up to 3 days of out of school suspension.

