



Pike County Middle School

Cell Phone/Electronics Policy 26-27

In accordance with Georgia law under the Distraction-Free Education Act (HB 340), effective July 1, 2026, and to maintain a focused and respectful learning environment, the use of cell phones and other electronic devices during school hours is strictly prohibited. Cell phones and other personal electronic devices, as outlined below, must be **OFF** and stored in a student's **bookbag** or **locker** only during the school day.

- All cell phones and personal electronic devices must be turned off and stored away, **not on person**, during the bell-to-bell school day.
- At PCMS, this begins at 7:55 with dismissal from the gym. Students must turn off and put ALL electronics in their bookbag. They can choose to then store them in **bookbag** or **locker** only during the day (cannot be in pockets, purse, small bag, lunchbox, etc.)
- Electronics include, but are not limited to, smartphones, smartwatches, tablets, E-readers, headphones, smart/video glasses, or other devices with functionalities such as wireless communication, internet access, messaging, video recording, gaming, social media access, or data transmission.
- Cell phones are to be off during the instructional day, 8:00-3:05. They may only be used before and after school.
- Cell phones will **not** be used for instructional purposes.
- Wired headphones will be allowed for instructional purposes with a school device.
- Taking photos or recording videos on school property is strictly prohibited.
- Parents, in case of emergency, please contact the office.
- If after school activities are cancelled, students will be allowed to use the office phone to notify parents.
- The office phone is for transportation changes, cancellation of activities, illness, or emergencies.

-Be Your Best Self-