



BARBERTON CITY SCHOOLS

BUILDING A BETTER BARBERTON - *ONE STUDENT AT A TIME!*

Barberton Middle School Cell Phone and Electronic Device Policy “Away For The Day”

Hello,

I want to let you know about an important school policy change taking place starting this upcoming year. The cell phone and electronic device policy for Barberton Middle School will be “**Away For The Day.**” As a result, no student will be allowed to possess or use a cell phone/electronic device during the hours of 7:50 a.m. to 2:50 p.m. Cell phones must be off and secured in the student’s assigned locker. Of course, the best security for the cell phone is to leave it home. Barberton Middle School is not responsible for lost or stolen cell phones.

Academically, we are very fortunate at Barberton Middle School. BMS provides 1-to-1 technology in the form of Chromebooks. There is no academic reason to have cell phones during the day. In case of an emergency, parents can call the school office phone (330-745-9950) and we will convey the message. Parents should not attempt to call or text a child’s cellphone during the day.

Students who violate this policy will be subject to the following consequences:

- **First infraction:** take phone away/return at the end of the day
 - **Second infraction:** phone taken, parents notified, returned at the end of day
 - **Third infraction:** phone taken, must be picked up by a parent
- *** Progressive consequences beyond 3 offenses***

Research and science support an “Away For The Day” policy. We know that the part of the brain responsible for impulse control is not fully developed in middle school-aged children. When we expect kids to learn how to handle phone use in places like classrooms, we are setting many of them up for failure. When students do not have the freedom of accessing their phones during school hours, they are also more engaged socially and academically.

Administration Building
633 Brady Ave
Barberton OH 44203
PH: 330.753.1025
Fax: 330.848.0884

Barberton High School
555 Barber Rd
Barberton OH 44203
PH: 330.753.1084
Fax: 330.848.5517

Barberton Middle School
477 Fourth St NW
Barberton OH 44203
PH: 330.745.9950
Fax: 330.745.9962

Barberton Elementary School
East
292 E Robinson Ave
Barberton OH 44203
PH: 330.745.5492
Fax: 330.745.8378



Barberton Elementary School
West
1151 Shannon Ave
Barberton OH 44203
PH: 330.825.2183
Fax: 330.825.2195

Barberton Preschool
633 Brady Ave
Barberton OH 44203
PH: 330.780.3208
Fax: 330.780.2043

Visit our Website:
www.barbertonschools.org



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Students who interact with their cell phones in class perform worse on tests -- often a full letter grade or more. In fact, just having phones within reach, can cause academic performance to decline, whether they're used or not. Recent research also indicates that the mere presence of a cell phone, even when it is silenced and stored out of sight, might affect students' ability to focus.

Cell phone use also impacts students emotionally and socially. While cyberbullying gets a lot of attention, too many students face emotional stress when they are left out of group chats or see photos to which they compare themselves and feel inferior. When this happens during the school day, it can make it very difficult to focus on school work. Importantly, it has been found that face-to-face time with friends strongly correlates with less depressive feelings. Creating an environment where students disconnect from their devices and interact in person will positively impact the social and emotional well being of BMS students.

At Barberton Middle School, the education of our students is our highest priority. In order to achieve success, students must be fully engaged and focused on their learning at all times, without distraction. We thank you in advance for your cooperation and support in reinforcing our cell phones and electronic device policy. If you have questions or need more information, please contact Mr. Andric. You may also visit <https://www.awayfortheday.org> for more information.

Thank You,

Mr. Andric
Principal
Barberton Middle School
(330) 745-9950 x22505
mandric@barbertonschools.org

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