



**Victoria L. Janke-Mousty, Principal**  
**Charles Mooney PK-8 School**

**August 1, 2024**

**Re: Cell phone-free school**

**Dear Mustang Parents, Guardians and Supporters,**

We're making our schools a phone-free space to improve teaching and learning experiences by collecting and safely securing student cell phones, smart watches, wireless ear buds and other electronic devices as students enter the building daily.

This change aligns with CMSD's board policy that states that *"To maintain a secure and orderly learning environment, students who choose to bring a personal cellphone or electronic device to school will have their phone/device subject to collection and/or storage during the student school day."* This policy follows Ohio House Bill 250, which requires the minimization of cell phone use in schools.

Students will turn in cell phones as they enter the building daily. On the first day, the administration will collect the cell phones in the homeroom and assign students a number which will correlate to their book number in the classroom. After the first day, students will turn in the cell phone as they enter the building and will place it in their assigned number pocket in their homeroom pocket chart. Students in grades K-2 will place their cell phone in the assigned milkcrate. Tardy students will turn in cell phones in the office. At the end of the day, volunteer staff members will assist administration with returning phones to the homeroom. Students who violate the Cell Phone Policy will be disciplined according to Student Code of Conduct.

We believe that phones have great utility. We have also found that learning and social behavior improve drastically when students are fully engaged with their teachers and classmates. Research shows that the effects of creating phone-free educational environments on schools. Cell phone-free schools achieved notable progress in multiple areas:

- 65% of schools saw an improvement in academic performance
- 74% of schools saw an improvement in student behavior
- 83% of schools saw an improvement in student engagement in the classroom

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school directly at 216-838-3200 or attend one of our upcoming such as the Back to School Meet the Teacher night on **August 15 from 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm.**

If there is an emergency and you would like to get in contact with your child, please reach out to the main office at 216-838-3200. To best serve your child, we appreciate your full support in creating a cell phone-free environment at our school.

Thank you,

**Victoria Janke-Mousty, Principal**

**Chief Executive Officer**  
Dr. Warren G. Morgan II

**Board of Education**  
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**Ex Officio Members**

Michael A. Baston, Ed.D., J.D.

Laura Bloomberg, Ph.D.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **What if I want to reach my child during the school day?**

We want our students to be engaged in their learning. If you need to contact your child during the school day, contact the main office at 216-838-3200.

### **What if there is a school emergency?**

In case of a school emergency, we direct our students to safety first, following our school emergency preparedness protocol.

### **Will my student's phone be safe?**

Student phones will be stored in the safe daily.

