

Rough Rock School Board, Inc.

(928) 728-3705 - P.O. Box 680 - Chinle, AZ 86503

Rough Rock Community School, US Hwy 59, Chinle, AZ 86503



Rough Rock Community School Inc.

Student Cell Phone and Personal Electronic Device Policy (Adoption) (Junior High & High School Emphasis)

Subject: New Student Cell Phone and Electronic Device Policy

Dear RRCS Families,

Rough Rock Community School is committed to providing a safe, respectful, and academically focused learning environment for all students. Per TCS/BIE Principal meeting on January 5, 2026, "1. Cell Phone Usage by students in BIE/TCS schools. Trends are following state statutes that do not allow students to use cellphones in schools which lowers disruption to learning climates in classrooms across the Navajo region. Cell phone usage only addresses "students" and not staff". To support this, we are implementing a revised **Student Cell Phone and Personal Electronic Device Policy**, with specific emphasis on **Junior High and High School students**.

This policy will take effect **January 20, 2026**, and aligns with **Arizona House Bill 2484**, which requires schools to limit student use of wireless communication devices during the school day.

Purpose of the Policy

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Reduce classroom distractions and improve student focus
- Support respectful behavior and positive social interaction
- Promote academic engagement and student responsibility
- Ensure consistency and safety during the instructional day

Policy Overview

During the school day, **Junior High and High School students** are expected to adhere to the following:

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- All personal electronic devices must be **turned off or silenced** and **stored out of sight** (such as in backpacks or lockers) during instructional time.
- Devices covered under this policy include:
 - Cell phones
 - Smart watches
 - Wireless earbuds or headphones
 - Any other personal electronic communication devices

Devices may **not** be visible or used during class unless explicitly permitted by staff.

Permitted Use (Non-Instructional Time Only)

Students may use personal devices **only** during the following times:

- Before school
- After school
- Lunch periods
- Passing periods between classes

Use during these times must still follow school expectations for respectful and appropriate behavior.

Communication During the School Day

- If a parent or guardian needs to urgently contact a student during school hours, they should call the **school office**. Office staff will ensure the message is delivered promptly.
 - If a student needs to contact a parent or guardian during the school day, they must obtain permission from a staff member and use school-approved communication methods.
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Exceptions to the Policy

In accordance with state law, exceptions may be granted for the following reasons:

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- **Educational Use:** Teachers may allow device use for specific instructional activities that support learning objectives.
 - **Medical Needs:** Students with documented medical conditions will be provided reasonable accommodations.
 - **Emergency Situations:** Device use may be permitted during school-wide or individual emergencies as directed by school administration.
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Enforcement and Consequences

- Violations of this policy will be addressed in accordance with the **RRCS Student Handbook**.
- Repeated violations may result in:
 - Confiscation of the device
 - The device being returned **only to a parent or guardian**
- Progressive discipline will be applied for ongoing non-compliance.

Please note: Rough Rock Community School is **not responsible** for lost, stolen, or damaged personal electronic devices brought to school.

Closing

We appreciate the cooperation and support of our families as we work together to maintain a focused, respectful, and culturally grounded learning environment for our students—especially during the critical Junior High and High School years.

If you have questions or concerns regarding this policy, please contact your school administration.

Thank you for your continued partnership.

Sincerely,
Rough Rock Community School Administration