

**Hilo High School
Cell Phone & Tablet Use Policy
2016-2017 School Year**

Background

In 2007, Hilo High School initiated a *cellphone ban* to eliminate theft, curtail textual harassment, (cyber-bullying), and to encourage more (verbal) social interaction. The School Community Council (SCC) developed a written policy by stating that all cell phones would not be allowed on campus, thereby, identifying cell phones as *Contraband*, a Chapter 19 - Class D offense. The SCC supported and voted on the ban and it became a Hilo High School Policy.

The ban remained in effect up through the 2015-16 SY with added modifications, i.e., some teachers allowed for the use of cell phones for class *research*, i.e., Google search, etc., as well as for *personal entertainment* during class. (This modification fell directly under the immediate supervision of the classroom teacher).

Policy Changes - (Effective August 1, 2016)

Cell phones, (smartphones), are now considered to be an integral part of the educational environment. Students are expected to exhibit skills of being “effective users of technology”. It is recognized, however, that students may also be communicating to others and listening to personal music through their personal devices. Therefore, the following protocols will be in effect for all student cell phone users.

Cell Phone Use IS Permitted:

1. **BEFORE and AFTER School**
(Before 8:00am and After the Release Bell)

2. **During *morning and lunch* recesses**
(From the time student steps out of classroom to the sounding of the end of recess bell)

3. **In Tech-Zone Classrooms, during class time. with the permission of the teacher.**
(Use of cellphones **during class time** will be *at the discretion* of the classroom teacher. Classrooms considered for *cell phone use* must be identified as a “Tech Zone”.)

Cell Phone Use is NOT Permitted:

1. During Passing Periods
(8:00-810am, Passing between classes, passing from recess to classes)

2. During class periods *outside* of the classroom itself (Regardless of Tech Zones)
(While running errands, using the restroom, restroom use, etc.)

3. At any time as determined by School Administration.

Note: The use of Speaker-type devices, bluetooth, wireless or wired, are not authorized on campus at anytime.

CONSEQUENCE

Improper use of cell phones/tablets, i.e., cyber-bullying, academic cheating, etc., as well as **unauthorized** use, i.e., during no-use periods, improper use, initiating the unwanted taking of digital pictures, etc. - will fall under Chapter 19, Student Misconduct and Discipline.