

## Cell Phone Policy Update

Approved on Thursday, August 11, 2022

This policy is an honest effort to protect students and combat the rapid increase in the use of pornography, screen, and gaming addictions, cyberbullying, anxiety disorders, attention deficit problems, poor brain development caused by excessive cell phone usage, etc. We hope this policy will promote spiritual and mental well-being.

1. Cell phones, headphones, and earbuds are not to be used, seen, or heard in the following instances:
  - a. At all meals
  - b. Between 7:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. in the Administration Building (including student lounges, hallways, classrooms, and the gymnasium) from Monday to Friday.
  - c. Music Building and Cafeteria
  - d. During Sunday School Days (hours of instruction)
  - e. Any classes that meet outside of 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
  - f. All Campus Ministries events unless otherwise noted.
2. While smart watches or other similar devices are allowed, the misuse of these devices will also result in confiscation.
3. In an emergency, students and parents can use the school office phone 301-739-8480
4. Any student on academic or citizenship probation is subject to further disciplinary actions and restrictions regarding the use of both school and personal technology.
5. All students must have their cellphones, laptops, and tablets registered with the school's IT Department. Students using an unregistered or additional device are subject to discipline.
6. Note: Dormitories have additional policies regarding cell phone and technology use in their spaces.

**This policy will be re-evaluated in November by the HVA staff. Any subsequent updates will be shared and changes would be effective beginning in January 2023.**