



Dear EMS Parents and Guardians,

Eastpointe Middle School is a no phone zone, as stated in our student handbook. Therefore, beginning on Tuesday, September 5, 2023 phones must be securely put away from 7:20-2:33. Students will be greeted in the morning and given two options to secure their phones. The first option is to place the phone inside their own labeled bag to be placed in their designated 6th hour bin. Dean of students, Mr. Marquis Dorsey and the members of the SST team (Mr. Dove, Ms. Fullwood, and Mr. Seays) will oversee the collection and the distribution of phones. Each student phone will be securely locked away when they are in Eastpointe Middle School's possession. The second option is for the student to secure the phone in their locker for the duration of the school day. **If your child chooses to not turn in their cell phone and has it out at any point during the day, the phone will be confiscated and a parent will be required to pick it up from the school.** If this behavior continues your child will face disciplinary action, per our code of conduct. Necessary accommodations will be made for those with **documented medical needs**. If you need to get in touch with your child during the school day please contact Eastpointe Middle School at (586) 533-3600. All students have also been instructed that if they need to reach out to parents/guardians during the school day they may do so by using the phones located in the front office.

Why are we collecting phones?

- Phones are a distraction while teachers are trying to give instructions and cause students to miss reminders, directives, and important information.
- Students are using their phones to communicate with each other to plan and record fights, which are then distributed to their peers. This can result in students being recorded in negative ways as well as invading privacy should phones be used in environments like locker rooms and bathrooms.
- Students take pictures of peers and post them on their social media pages, or as discovered last year place them on hate pages that can then be considered cyberbullying. This can also lead to disciplinary actions as well as legal repercussions due to not having consent to take, record, or post images of students.

Eastpointe Middle School hopes to create a safer environment by taking on this initiative. Doing so encourages students to interact with one another in socially appropriate ways that are conducive to learning. It gives students the opportunity for school to become a safe space where they are free from distractions and fears of cyberbullying. Let's have a wonderful, safe year together!

Best,

Morgan Reece

Principal