

CELL PHONE POLICY 2018

Grades 7-12

A new cell phone policy will be implemented from March 19–May 25 for students in grades 7-12 for the 2017–2018 school year. The program will be assessed at the end of the school year to determine if this program is a practical long term option for FBCA.

Cell phones have become an important convenience to both parents and students, however they can be a nuisance in the educational environment. It's important that we honor our teachers, their classrooms, and the integrity of the learning environment.

This year the use of cell phones through many of its functions (calls, pictures, texting, etc.) has become disruptive and has often interfered with the educational process. Therefore, the use of cell phones will no longer be permitted on school grounds during school hours without express permission from a school official (Administrator or Principal only).

Cell phones should remain in the student's vehicle or turned in to the school office each day. If a cell phone is visible and/or in use, it is subject to be taken up. If a student is found to have a cell phone on his/her person – *whether being used or not* – it will be confiscated and given to the Administration.

In the event of an emergency, students may get permission from a school official before using their cell phone on school grounds or they may use the phone in the office when needing to make the call. In addition, parents needing to talk to or leave a message for their student may call the school office and we will be happy to assist them. If parents are unable to reach the school office, they may contact us personally (text messaging works best). *Pastor Sellars (912) 294-4759 or Bro. Kicklighter (912) 294-4337.*

Disciplinary actions will result in the following:

- **1st Offense:** The phone will be taken up and held in the office until the end of the school day. The phone may be retrieved only by a parent. A \$10 fee will be charged to get the phone back.
- **2nd Offense:** The phone will be taken up and held in the office until the end of the school day. The phone may be retrieved only by a parent. A \$20 fee will be charged to get the phone back and the student will serve one day of in-school suspension.
- **3rd Offense:** The phone will be taken up and held in the office until the end of the school day. The phone may be retrieved only by a parent. A \$30 fee will be charged to get the phone back and the student will serve three days of in-school suspension.

Also, please be aware that cell phones (as well as any property brought onto campus) are subject to search and seizure by the Administration at any time.