



DoDEA - NEW YORK, VIRGINIA and PUERTO RICO DDESS
District Superintendent's Office
3308 John Quick Road
Quantico, Virginia 22134-1702

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

October 12, 2010

Dear Antilles and Ramey Parents/Sponsors/Students,

The use of cellular telephones continues to change the way we live our lives. The technology related to these instruments now goes far beyond simple telephone communication. Many of these instruments have the capability to make and receive telephone calls, send text messages, take still pictures, take moving pictures, store information, word process, and even serve as a GPS. With these increased capabilities comes concern for privacy and the rights of individuals.

Regulating the proper use of cellular telephones by students while on school grounds, at school activities, and on school buses is difficult. However, to protect the rights and privacy of students, staff, and parents I feel it is necessary to establish some parameters for cellular phone use. Please know that telephones in our school offices are available to students under defined purposes and in emergency situations. Likewise, you may call the school office and clerical personnel to relay urgent and/or emergency messages to your child should the need arise.

I have asked our school administrators to review their current student/parent policy manuals and for them to include the following as a matter of policy:

The office telephone is for school business and is not for student use, except in case of emergency. Personal calls are not considered an emergency. All personal/social business should be conducted before coming to school. In the event a student is scheduled for an afterschool activity which is cancelled, the student will be permitted to call home to inform the parent/guardian of the change. Cellular phones are not to be used on campus during class time or while riding in school buses for any reason, unless authorized by the school personnel in charge. Phones used in violation of this policy may be confiscated until they are returned to the parent/sponsor. Use of cellular phones at lunch and before/after school is acceptable upon approval of the school principal. However, the use of cellular telephones and other hand-held devices for texting, photographing, and/or audio/video recording while on the school campus, school buses or during school related activities is strictly prohibited without the expressed consent of the school principal.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this policy, please contact your student's principal.


Michael A. Gould
District Superintendent