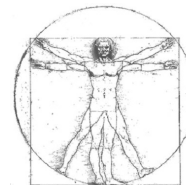




**Venice High School
MEDICAL ACADEMY
Electronic Device Policy 2018-2019**



Dear Medical Academy Parents,

The instructors of the Medical Academy are committed to providing a safe learning environment that allows our students to grow academically and socially to their maximum potential and therefore, will be enforcing the school cell phone/ electronic device policy.

To ensure that this policy is being followed by the students, we will ask them to place their phones in a secure location upon entering our classrooms. Students will have their phones returned to them the last few minutes of class to check for messages. If you need to reach a student during class time, please call the office and they will relay your message or connect you to the classroom if necessary.

Failure to adhere to this policy will result in the following consequences:

1st offense: device will be sent to administration, student may pick it up at the end of the day.

2nd offense: device will be sent to the front office; a parent will be required to pick it up.

We ask for your support in enforcing this policy.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Lash and Mrs. Hudson

Venice High School Cell Phones / Electronic Devices Policy

(as found on <https://sarasotacountyschools.net/schools/venicehigh/interior.aspx?id=81416>)

We realize that cell phones are a convenience and safety item for students and their families. As cell phones progress in complexity and capability, new problems arise. Picture and video capability has increased the ability to cheat in class and on standardized tests. Text messaging has increased the ability to threaten other students or to coordinate skipping classes or fighting. All schools are struggling to address these new and complicated issues. Therefore, all student cell phones must be turned off and put in a pocket or book bag from 7:30AM to 2:15PM. Students who repeatedly abuse this policy will have their cell phone confiscated by an administrator and parents will be required to come to the school for a conference. Parents are always welcome to leave a voice mail for their student on the cell phone, or contact the Attendance Office in case of an emergency, but cell phone calls during school time are not appropriate.

The use of electronic communication devices such as cell phones, camera phones, camera devices or two-way radios are prohibited during school hours. If a student has an electronic communication device on campus, this device must be turned off and not visible. Violation of this policy will result in consequences as determined by the school administration. If the electronic communication device is determined to be disruptive by ringing, vibrating or used in a malicious or inappropriate manner, it will result in consequences up to and including recommendation for expulsion. Any student who willfully sends any e-mail, text message, instant message or posts to any social networking Web site with the intent to threaten, intimidate or bully another student or school board employee may be charged by the POLICE with cyber-bullying and may face school consequences up to and including expulsion.

During a critical incident at the school, cell phones are not to be used by students. If a student uses a cell phone to attempt to contact a parent during an emergency, they could be putting themselves and their classmates in jeopardy.

During an emergency, talking is not allowed in the classroom. This rule is enforced so that the room will appear and sound vacant; conversation by the students could jeopardize their safety. Parents are asked to explain to their children the importance of not using cell phones during the emergency.

Venice High School Technology Use Policy

(as found on <https://sarasotacountyschools.net/schools/venicehigh/interior.aspx?id=81416>)

Technology is an integral part of a student's educational experience and must be used in a way that is consistent with the goals of Sarasota County Schools. Technology includes, but is not limited to, computers, personal digital assistants, other electronic devices, software, e-mail, the Internet, other network resources, cell phones and cameras. Student use of technology is a privilege and students are responsible for using technology appropriately. This includes the use of school district equipment away from school grounds.

The following are inappropriate and/or illegal uses of technology:

- Photographing or using photographs of individuals without their knowledge or consent.
- Accessing or distributing offensive, inflammatory pornographic or obscene images, language or materials, including screen savers, backdrops, and/or pictures on school district-owned technology or on any other electronic device brought to school.
- Transmission of any material in violation of federal, state, local law, or School Board policy, regulation, or Code of Student Conduct. This includes, but is not limited to copyrighted material; threatening, obscene, or pornographic material; vandalizing data, test questions and/or answers; student work products; trade secrets; and computer viruses, "worms" or "trojans".
- Utilizing technology for commercial activities unless explicitly permitted by the School Board.
- Downloading and/or printing music, games, videos or inappropriate files during school hours.
- Modifying the school district's original pre-set software or hardware, including, but not limited to: loading software applications not authorized by the school district; changing the computer name; changing or removing operating system and extensions; altering security/filtering software; altering the pre-loaded operating system or application; or taking apart the computer for access to internal parts, accessing or altering password.
- Using e-mail, instant messaging, web pages, or other technology operations to threaten, disrupt, or interfere with the safety and welfare of the school community.
- Gaining or attempting to gain unauthorized access to the district's network, computer servers, or data files.
- Gaining or attempting to gain unauthorized access to non-district networks, computer servers, or data files utilizing district equipment.
- Using profanity, obscenity, other language which maybe be offensive to another user, or reposting and copying personal communications without the author's prior consent, when using computer network access.
- Attempting to log on to the district's network using another person's identity.
- Bypassing or attempting to bypass the district's filtering software.
- Using computers, networks, and online telecommunication systems unrelated to students' educational systems. This includes the prohibition of plagiarism, reproduction of teacher-made tests, textbooks, teaching materials, non-authored text, cheating and theft of ideas.
- Accessing or distributing offensive, obscene, inflammatory, or pornographic material.
- Using network access to destroy information that belongs to others.
- Copying personal communication to others without the original author's permission.
- Copying software or other copyright-protected materials in violation of copyright laws.
- Using the network for any illegal activity or private business purposes or accessing inappropriate Internet sites.
- "Hacking" into the school's computer systems or unauthorized modification of computer settings. These acts will be considered vandalism and disruption of a school function and will be treated as such.
- Using technology to threaten, harass or bully other students or staff.
- Using a computer, video, camera or program in any manner other than for appropriate educational purposes.

Violations will result in serious disciplinary actions, which may include an arrest if any criminal law is broken. Examples of such violations would be computer hacking or trespass, harassment, or threats via computer or computer fraud.