

# BRICK MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL

*Home of the Mustangs*

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January 17, 2024

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As many of you may have heard from your children Brick Memorial will be implementing a new cell phone use program on Monday, January 22, 2024. This change will create a better learning environment for our students and still allow them plenty of time during the school day to communicate with you and their friends.

This decision has been made after many conversations with staff, parents, and students and is based on sound research about the negative learning effects of cellphone use in the classroom. This program has already been implemented by many of our staff members in their individual classrooms. Monday, January 22, will mark the beginning of the school wide program.

Students will be permitted to use their phones before and after school, during passing times, lunch, and 5-10 minutes of each class period. These time periods are spread throughout the day and combined allow for 2 hours of cell phone use.

The only time that cellphones need to be put away is during class, when active teaching and learning is taking place. Teachers may build a small period of time into the class to allow students to see texts that may have come in while instruction is taking place.

On Wednesday of this week we will be visiting all of our 2nd period classes to explain the program to our students and answer any questions they may have. Thursday and Friday will be practice days here at BMHS, to give students time to adjust to the change. On Monday any student that has a cell phone out during class will be asked by their teacher to please put it away. In the event that they refuse to do so they will be written up by their teacher and sent to me for possible discipline.

In closing, 90 percent of public schools in the United States do not allow any cell phone use in the classroom. We believe that implementing this program and supporting our staff in this effort will make our school a better place. If you have any questions or concerns please email me at [dfilippone@brickschools.org](mailto:dfilippone@brickschools.org).

Thank You,  
Dennis Filippone  
Interim Principal Brick Memorial High School

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**Interim Principal**  
Dennis Filippone

**Athletic Director**  
Edward Sarluca



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