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# MONMOUTH BEACH SCHOOL

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**Yelena A. Horr , Superintendent**

**Amanda L. Mergner, Administrator of Academic Achievement/Supervisor of Special Services**

**Peter E. Genovese III, Business Administrator**

August 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians:

As your building administrator, I am responsible for maintaining a safe and secure environment that is conducive to learning. In order to accomplish this goal on a daily basis, we believe it is important to remove sources of potential danger and distraction from our students, such as cell phones.

Please review the section addressing cell phone use in the MBS Student Handbook. In short, students will only be allowed to use cell phones for educational, teacher-directed purposes, during the school day while they are on school grounds. At all other times, students will be expected to store their cell phones in the pocket organizers in each middle school homeroom or in backpacks for all other grades during the school day.

This practice serves to help prevent students from engaging in unnecessary and inappropriate communication during the school day; it will also assist in maintaining a safer school environment. The students will continue to receive lessons about the dangers of inappropriate electronic communication and how it can lead to cyber bullying, as well as the potential consequences of that type of behavior. Additionally, students will learn that it is potentially unsafe to use their phones to contact parents during emergency drills, or actual emergency events, as this can cause inaccurate information to be shared, creating panic in the community, as well as potentially jeopardizing student safety. In the event of an actual emergency, communication to the community will come from the main office and/or from the local police department.

Finally, we recognize that there will be the need for students to make an occasional phone call to a parent for various reasons. When this happens, students will be expected to make calls from the main office, from the nurse's office, or from the classroom with the teacher's permission.

If you have any questions or concerns about this issue, please do not hesitate to call us.

Respectfully,

Yelena A. Horr   
Superintendent/Principal