



The Police Officer Rocco Laurie Intermediate School 72

Jessica Jackson, Principal

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Bell-to-Bell Cell Phone and Electronic Device Policy School Year 2026 - 2027

Dear Families,

As part of a statewide mandate to support safe, focused, and healthy learning environments, our school will implement a bell-to-bell cell phone and personal electronic device policy that began September 2025. This policy is in alignment with [New York Education Law Section 2803](#) and [Chancellor's Regulation A-413](#). For more information on this policy, visit the [NYCDOE Family-Facing Page](#).

Legal Background

[New York Education Law Section 2803](#), enacted in May 2025, requires all public schools to prohibit the use of personal internet-enabled devices (such as smartphones, smartwatches, and tablets) by students during the school day with exceptions only for educational use, medical needs, emergencies, or legal requirements. [Chancellor's Regulation A-413](#), revised in June 2025, mandates secure storage of student devices, clear communication procedures for families, and written policies shared with all stakeholders.

Effective the First Day of School

Students will not be permitted to use or access their personal internet-enabled electronic devices upon arrival at school until the end of the school day. The school day is defined as the period from the moment students enter the school building until the last class of the day ends, including during lunch. The school day starts at 8:00am and ends at 2:20pm. Students will be able to use school/NYCPS-issued devices during the school day.

Every student is assigned a personal NuKase. While the NuKase is considered school property, it is each student's responsibility to bring their NuKase with them to school every day and keep it in good working condition.

Please see a video of how to operate the NuKase Lockable phone cases: <https://vimeo.com/1017168103>

As students **arrive to school**, they will:

- 1) Report to their assigned arrival locations and turn their phone off.
- 2) Place their phone inside their NuKase and secure it in front of school staff.
- 3) Store their NuKase in their backpack for the day.
- 4) If a student is staying for any of our after school programs inside our building, the NuKase protocols will be set in place.

As students **exit the school**, they will:

- 1) Open their NuKase at their assigned designated area based on dismissal procedures set forth by school administration.
- 2) Remove their phone, re-lock their NuKase for maintenance purposes and then place the NuKase back into their school bag.
- 3) Students **must** bring their NuKase to school with them each day.

If a student is **arriving to school late**:

- 1) The student's Dean/AP/School Aide will assist the student with the NuKase arrival procedures.
- 2) The student should follow the same NuKase arrival procedures as indicated above.

If a student is **leaving early**:

- 1) The student will meet their guardian in the Family Center. At that time, one of our staff members will assist the student in unlocking their NuKase.
- 2) The student should follow the same NuKase dismissal procedure as indicated above.

Parent/Student Communication

In the event of a school emergency (such as an evacuation, lockdown, or shelter-in-place), we will promptly notify all parents and guardians via GAMA and Operoo with updates and instructions. Please ensure your contact information is up to date on Operoo.

To ensure "distraction-free" instructional time, **parents/guardians who need to contact their child during the school day should call the main office or Parent Coordinator at (718) 698-5757** or email your child's Assistant Principal, Dean, or Guidance Counselor. Students will not be permitted to unlock and use their personal devices to communicate during school hours.

- 6th Grade: Assistant Principal Ms. Ambrosino, Dean Ms. Carlo, Guidance Counselor Ms. Bermudez
- 7th Grade: Assistant Principal Mr. Benitez, Dean Mr. Fischler, Guidance Counselor Ms. Lubrano
- 8th Grade: Assistant Principal Ms. Movsesian, Dean Mr. Jacobs, Guidance Counselor Ms. Conanan

If a student needs to contact their parent or guardian during the school day, they may request to use the designated phone in an administrative office with the permission of their classroom teacher. Students are not permitted to use other electronic devices such as apple watches, ipads, or laptop messaging to communicate with parents and guardians.

Progressive Discipline Policy

Students who use electronic devices in violation of the NYCPS [Discipline Code](#), the school's policy, [Chancellor's Regulation A-413](#), and/or the NYCPS [Internet Acceptable Use and Safety Policy](#) ("IAUSP") will be subject to progressive discipline. This means that disciplinary responses will escalate based on the nature and frequency of the violation.

- **FIRST OFFENSE:**
 - The Dean will collect the device, review the NuKase student policy with the student, and call home to remind the parent of the policy.
 - Their phone will be collected by Admin and/or Dean and will be placed in a school NuKase which will be secured in the grade Dean's office. Students will NOT be allowed to keep their phone for the day. The student's phone will then be returned after dismissal.
- **SECOND OFFENSE:**
 - The Dean will review the NuKase student policy with the student and call home to remind the parent of the policy.
 - Their phone will be collected by Admin and/or Dean and will be placed in a school NuKase which will be secured in the Dean's office. Students will NOT be allowed to keep their phone for the day. The student's phone will then be returned after dismissal.
 - Students will serve lunch detention.
- **THIRD OFFENSE:**
 - The Dean will review the NuKase student policy with the student and call home to remind the parent of the policy.
 - Their phone will be collected by Admin and/or Dean and will be placed in a school NuKase which will be placed in a secure location. Students will NOT be allowed to keep their phone for the day. The **guardian will be required to pick up the phone from the school.**
 - Moving forward, the student will have to hand in their locked NuKase to the grade Dean or Assistant Principal daily. The student will forfeit their right to keep their phone on them throughout the school day. The student's phone will then be returned after dismissal.
 - Repeated Infractions: Suspension, in accordance with DOE guidelines.

Students are allowed to use their device if they have an individualized education program (IEP) or 504 Plan that includes use of an internet-enabled device and do not have a DOE-issued device for such purpose. **Parents/guardians must contact Ms. Lyon (504 Coordinator) at 718-698-5757** if a student requires an exception for reasons such as: medical monitoring/treatments (for example, to monitor blood sugar or other similar circumstances), if student is a caregiver, for approved language purposes (such as translation or interpretation services if no other means are available), or where otherwise required by law. The principal/designee may authorize use for an educational purpose. **Exceptions will be processed within one week of request.**

In the unlikely event that an electronic device is **stolen or damaged at school**, parents can submit a claim to the Comptroller's Office. More information on submitting a claim is available on the [Comptroller's webpage](#).

If your child lost or failed to return their lockbox in June, we will replace it once **this year**. It will be your responsibility to keep the lockbox safe and bring it back and forth to school everyday. If you lose the lockbox, you will be charged a \$20.00 replacement fee

All students and families will receive a copy of this policy in September and will be asked to acknowledge their understanding. We appreciate your partnership in creating a focused, respectful, and emotionally healthy school environment.

If you have any questions, please email Ms. Ambrosino, 6th Grade Assistant Principal & Assistant Principal of Safety.

Sincerely,
Jessica Jackson, Principal