**DALHOUSIE REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL**

500 CANADA GAMES DRIVE

DALHOUSIE N.B.

E8C 2P5

**TELEPHONE: (506)684-7553                      Principal:  Dawn Beckingham**

**FAX:  (506)684-7602                      Acting Vice-Principal: Jonathan Watts**

Re: Electronic devices at school- grades 9-12

Dear parents/guardians:

Dalhousie Regional High School teachers at times require students to use technology to research, problem solve, complete group work, be creative, deepen their learning and develop critical their thinking skills. Access to school Wifi from personal devices will not be available for any student in the 2019-2020 school year. The school does have existing technology for students to access throughout the day.

There is some data to support the use of technology in the classroom to enhance communication and collaboration among students. But not surprisingly, there is much more data that identifies the use of cell phones in schools as decreasing attention spans, increasing distraction, increasing bullying and lessening positive social interaction to name a few. The most troubling issue that we see is the increased evidence of cell phone addiction.

Our school has established standards for the appropriate use of cell phones in the building. Cell phone use will not be allowed in the classroom unless the teacher is working specifically on a project that requires a designated cell phone app. This use must be approved by the teacher. Using a phone as a calculator is not acceptable. Cell phones may be used during break times and lunch hour. To help get support on this from parents, you will find below a schedule of break times and I ask that if you need to contact your child through their cell phone, that it is done only during these times. If it is an emergency, the school number is 684-7553.

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| **Grades 9-12** Class begins at 8:30 a.m. |
| Morning break: 10:40-10:55 |
| Lunch: 12:00-1:00 |
| Dismissal: 3:15 |

If a student uses their phone during class time, here is the process our teachers will follow:

1st offense: warning and phone must be put away out of sight.

2nd offense: student must give their phone to the teacher to be placed in a designated area.

3rd offense: student must give their phone to the teacher for the remainder of the day.

4th offense: student must give their phone to the teacher. Administration will hold the phone until a parent meeting is held.

We appreciate your support on this as it will only benefit your child in the end, both academically and socially. If you have any concerns with this cell phone policy, please contact the school at 684-7553.

Kindest Regards,

Dawn Beckingham

DRHS Principal