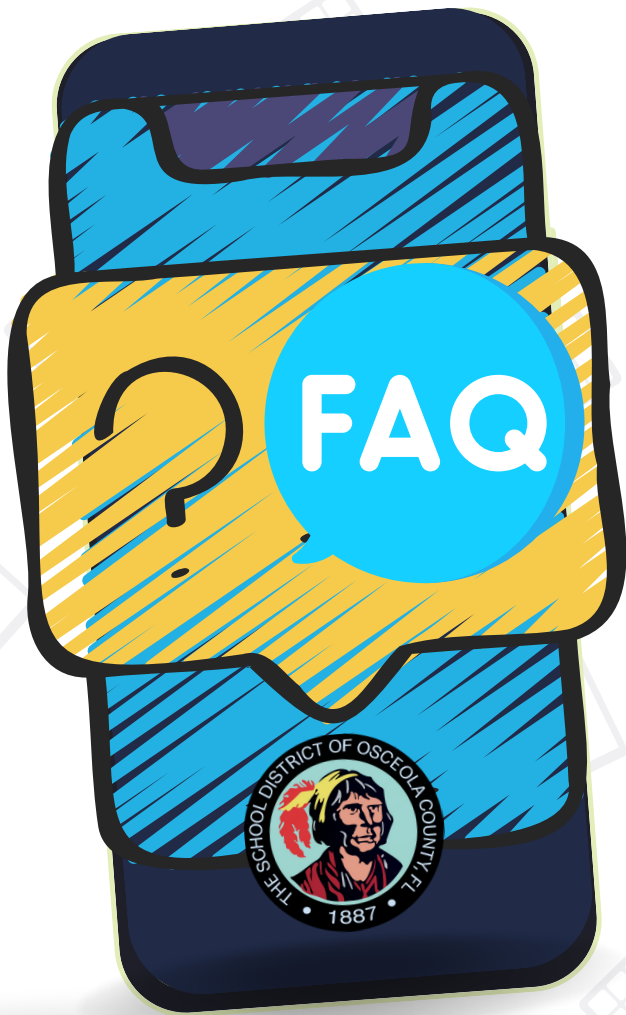


# 2024-2025 Osceola School District Student Cell Phone Procedures Frequently Asked Questions:

State of Florida House Bill 379 states that "a student may not use a wireless communications device during instructional time, except when expressly directed by a teacher solely for educational purposes. A teacher shall designate an area for wireless communications devices during instructional time."



**Q:** Can Osceola students have cell phones on school campuses?

**A:** Yes. Osceola School Board Policy 8.63 states, "A student may possess a wireless communication or electronic device such as a personal digital assistant (PDA), laptop computer, notebook, tablet, or smart phone, in school, on school property, at after school activities, and at school related functions under specified conditions."

**Q:** What do students do with their cell phones or electronic devices when they are not in use?

**A:** Cell phones, wireless communication or other electronic devices must remain powered down, silenced, and stored out of sight during school hours unless permitted for academic purposes and on school vehicles.

**Q:** My student's coach/club sponsor uses Remind to communicate with my child regarding after-school practices or rehearsals. How will they contact my child during the day?

**A:** Coaches and club sponsors should use SDOC email during the school day to communicate with their students.

**Q:** Can cell phones be used on campus when students are not in class?

**A:** According to the district's Code of Student Conduct, the cell phone or device may only be used by a student before (providing the conversation is terminated before the commencement of school) and after regular school hours. Lunch time is considered as school hours. The principal may require the device to be registered with the school prior to allowing students to use them in the manner described above.

**Q:** Is a smart watch considered a wireless device like a cell phone?

**A:** Yes. Because a smart watch has the capacity to connect to a cell phone and messaging apps, they are considered a wireless device. As such, they must remain powered down, silenced, and stored out of sight during school hours unless permitted for academic purposes and on school vehicles.

**Q:** Can students use earbuds or headphones on the school campuses?

**A:** Earbuds and headphones are not permitted during the school day, unless part of an academic assignment. Listening to music while completing assignments is not considered part of an academic assignment.





