



February 22, 2022

1159 Abbott Road
Buffalo, New York 14220
Phone: (716) 821-1903
Fax: (716) 342-2222

Dear Parents:

Since the start of the school year, the use of personal electronic devices have been a distraction to the learning process and our commitment in developing the whole child here at Global Concepts Charter School. The usage of cellphones has reached a major level of concern in our middle and high school buildings. Our leadership team have been reviewing our policy on the use of personal electronic devices during the school day in order to balance the need for advanced technology in the classroom and exemplary delivery of instructional content to our young people.

After extensive research, internal monitoring and deliberation, Global Concepts Charter School will be implementing an "Away for the Day Policy," in regards to personal electronic devices, starting immediately after mid-winter break. This will include cellular phones and all other personal electronic devices including, but not limited to smart watches, Bluetooth capable and other smart devices.

The "Away for the Day Policy" means students will put such devices in their lockers for the entire day. If our students need to contact their parents/guardians, they will make arrangement with an adult. All of our classrooms are equipped with telephones and can be used to make outside calls. Students can use these phones, with teacher permission, to contact parents/guardians. Conversely, parents/guardians can call the Main Office in the event of an emergency and we will communicate with your child, when necessary.

During the first two (2) weeks after mid-winter break, we will work to educate our young people on this new policy. After the first two (2) weeks of implementation, we will strictly enforce the policy. Violations will be addressed in the following manner:

- **1st Offense:** Device is confiscated and returned to the student at the end of the day.
- **2nd Offense:** Device is confiscated and must be picked up by a parent/guardian.
- **3rd Offense:** Phone is confiscated, parent is called. The parent has the option to keep the phone in our vault for five (5) days or the student will serve ISS and the phone must be retrieved by the parent. While serving ISS, the phone must be turned in to the office daily and will be returned at the end of each day.
- **Further Offenses:** Phone is confiscated, parent is called, the student will serve three (3) days of ISS and the parent must retrieve the phone. The phone must be turned in to the office, daily, and will be returned at the end of each day.

The purpose of this policy is to minimize disruptions to the educational environment for students and teachers. In order to ensure that students are still getting experience with how technology can benefit their learning, we will issue individual devices (Chromebooks, tablets, etc.), that are monitored and filtered by Global Concept's Technology Department.

Global Concepts Charter School does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion/creed, color, national origin, gender/sex, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, transgender status, genetic predisposition or carrier status, veteran status, victim of domestic violence status, familial status, marital status or any other legally protected status.

**Excellence in Educational Programming*

February 22, 2022

Page 2

In providing this level of technology support for our young people, we feel it prudent to begin our "Away for the Day Policy" starting Monday, February 28, 2022. Students will lock their cellphone devices in their lockers for the school day.

Educationally yours,



Tracy L. McGee,
CEO