

GREATER JOHNSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
SDM Committee on Cell Phone Usage Meeting Agenda
Monday, October 28, 2024, 3:00 p.m.
The JHS Media Center

I. Meeting called to order at 3:00 p.m.

II. Team Members and Administrators in attendance:

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	COMMENTS
Scott Hale	x		
Nick Snow	x		
Michelle Abel	x		
Deb Orsell		x	Shared OESJ's plan
Hanz Litz	x		
Meredith Fagan	x		
Tara Bruce		x	
Nicole Panton		x	Shared note from Amsterdam
Katie McCumber	x		
Allison Grupp	x		
Lisa VanAernam	x		
Jaclyn Whitman		x	
Helen Reed	x		
Alexis St. John		x	
Miles Rocklin		x	
Adam Blakeslee		x	
Carly Smrtic		x	

Sean Heffernan		x	
Camilla Ventura	x		
Hanna Conti	x		
Brady Warner	x		
Mia Iorio	x		
Elliot Haverly	x		
Meghan Heroth	x		
Bobbi Jo Haverly	x		
Jamie Tallon	x		

Guests:

Others:

III. Old Business

- ★ Roles and responsibilities
 - Notetaker - Meredith Fagan
 - Timekeeper - Nicole Panton
 - Facilitator - Scott Hale and Nick Snow
- ★ Cell Phone Discussion (*5 min.*)
 - Review our conversation from 10/21/24

IV. New Business (40 minutes)

- ★ What are other districts doing? (10 minutes)
 - HFM Regional Schools-General discussion of various policies
 - Committee reads Broadalbin-Perth's letter to parents and policy "Bell to Bell, No Cell"
 - Mr. Litz reads a comment from BPHS teacher who says their policy is largely successful and he is days ahead in his curriculum. Students and teachers are engaging again in small

talk, etc. Those with the most issues are students who use cell phones as a mental health crutch.

- Shenendhowa has a policy of modeling responsible cell-phone use
- Gloversville and Schoharie use Yondr

- Capital Region Schools

- See Shenedenhowa

- ★ What will our discipline matrix look like? (10 minutes)

- Share steps from other districts
- SCHOHARIE Phone Use Progressive Discipline
 - 1ST OFFENSE
 - 2ND OFFENSE
 - 3RD OFFENSE
 - Really positive response from the kids when JHS faculty visited
 - Discipline went down
 - Takes two weeks to adjust
 - Can they detox without the Yondr pouches?
 - Clear cut policy gives administration ability to hold students accountable
 - Teachers would have to follow through and also model the appropriate behavior where they are not on their cell phones or smart watches.

- ★ Research programs that educate students on appropriate cell phone usage (5 minutes)

- This responsibility was given to the committee to look into when a plan is put in place. They discussed the importance of making sure the school comes up with a plan to educate students on appropriate use.

- ★ If changes are made, what does our communication look like? (15 minutes)

- When? ASAP
- Why? All our notes—mental health
- How? Parent Square; Leader-Herald; Website; Forum

- ★ Next Meeting Dates

- November 21, 2024—Come to a consensus about our recommendations

- Cell Phones are convenient but all the data proves they do not keep kids safe

V. Next Items

- **Work on recommendation for District**

VI. Meeting concluded at 4:06