



Maples Met School

SEVEN OAKS SCHOOL DIVISION

Maples MET School
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Dear Maples Met Families,

After much discussion with staff, students, and our family community, we have decided to move forward with a new approach to dealing with the harmful effects and distractions caused by inappropriate and excessive cell phone use in school.

Every time we make a decision at school we ask ourselves the following question: **what is in the best interests of the student(s)?**

Given scientific research, in-school observations, and parent/student concerns regarding the harmful effects of too much cell phone use in our school, we have opted to refocus our learning environment in a way that makes for a less distracted and more concentrated learning space.

Moving forward, advisors will expect students to have phones put away upon arrival into the classroom. Phone use during the day will be determined by the advisor as they see fit for school purposes.

We believe that this approach is in the best interests of our students.

Chromebooks, desktops, and iPads will all be available for students to use for project research, or to listen to music, if desired (and permitted at that time by the advisor).

The cell phone hotel will be safely stored for those using it.

If parents need to reach students in an emergency situation during the day, please contact the school at: 204-632-6641. Should you be unable to reach someone on that line, please reach out to your advisor directly.

Thank you very much for your ongoing support on this and for sharing your concerns with me. We will begin transitioning our culture around cell phones on Monday, and we will keep an open dialogue with everyone, and adjust where needed along the way.

Should you have any further questions, please feel free to be in touch!

Ben