

# Frank Maddock High School



Dr. Lara Jollymore  
Principal  
[lara.jollymore@wrsd.ca](mailto:lara.jollymore@wrsd.ca)  
4801 – 43 Street  
Drayton Valley, AB  
T7A 1P4

Mr. Andrew Highfield  
Vice Principal  
[andrew.highfield@wrsd.ca](mailto:andrew.highfield@wrsd.ca)  
Tel(780)542-4401  
Fax(780)542-3407  
[fmhs@wrsd.ca](mailto:fmhs@wrsd.ca)

## School-Wide Implementation of Personal Mobile Device Guidelines

### Preamble

At our school, we are committed to continually examining our thinking, understandings and practices to nurture a thriving learning environment. We have worked with various cell phone guidelines throughout the last few years, and this year, will be implementing guidelines as directed by Alberta Education.

We will have a roll out and feedback system to review our practices over the first month of school. While we acknowledge that mobile phones and social media are integral to students' lives, we are going to do the best we can to implement the Alberta Education Cell Phone expectations, with as much compassion and understanding as possible, given the awareness that this may be difficult for some students and families.

Effective 1 September 2024, students will be learning within environments free of personal mobile devices. We recommend that students leave their cell phones at home, but if they do bring them to school, the best and safest location for them is in their locker.

A personal mobile device (pmd) means any personal electronic device that can be used to communicate with or access the internet, such as a cellphone, tablet, laptop, smartwatch or gaming console. According to [Alberta Education Ministerial Order #014/2024](#), students may not use personal mobile devices during instructional time. PMDs cannot be visible within a classroom. Furthermore, WRSD has altered the various settings so that social media cannot be accessed through the school network or on school devices.

## Guidelines

1. At FMHS, laptops and/or chromebooks can be used for educational purposes as permitted by the classroom teacher.
2. Limited use exceptions for PMDs for medical reasons, support of special learning needs and other educational purposes may be determined by the school principal with support from Division Office Inclusive Services and Learning Services. Please contact [lara.jollymore@wrsd.ca](mailto:lara.jollymore@wrsd.ca) or the school at 780-542-4401 if you feel your student requires one of these exceptions.
3. PMD use (with the exception of #1 and #2 above) will fall under section 204, Major Incident: Defiance within the [FMHS Student Handbook](#).

## Supports Available

For many students, phones act as a safety net, a tool for managing boredom and self regulation, and sometimes an avoidance tactic. We have supports within our Wellness program and through conversation with school administrators and teachers. If you are struggling with managing your life without access to your pmd while at school, we are here to help in whatever way we can. Please see Nathan in the wellness space, or come to the office.

## Additional Information

- [Wild Rose School Division Communication to Families](#)
- [Government of Alberta - Limiting Distractions in Alberta's Classrooms](#)
- [Alberta Minister of Education. Letter to Parents: Cellphones](#)
- [Research related to the use of personal mobile devices and social media](#)

More detailed information will follow early in September.



*A Warrior Rises Above All Others*

**Warriors ARISE**

**Accountability • Respect • Integrity • Strength • Excellence**