



# Public Schools of Plainfield

Plainfield Academy for the Arts & Advanced Studies  
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Good afternoon PAAAS Community,

The year is off to a great start! We are writing this particular letter to ask for each of our families to work with us as we try to work out a reoccurring problem in our school.

Technology has made our world fast-paced, connected and exhilarating. On the other hand, it can also be a distraction for students in the classroom. Therefore, we would like to provide a balance of these two things as we strive to have our students engaged and present for classroom activities. In order to provide safety and security for your child, many of you have allowed your child to carry a cellphone to school. At PAAAS, students are allowed to carry their cellphones on silence mode. They are not allowed to text, make phone calls, and check on social media pages while in classrooms or in the hallways.

In the meantime, we have a student telephone in the main office, and there are classroom telephones that teachers may allow students to call out from, with permission, if your child needs to call home. If you need to contact your child during the school day, you may contact (908) 731-4370, and our main office staff will certainly give your student a message or have him/her come to the phone for a family emergency.

During instruction, it is very important that we provide your student with an education that is engaging, rigorous and relevant. Technology is naturally engaging, while at the same time enticing for students. In the classroom, there is an appropriate time for the use of technology, and the classroom teacher will structure that time. We want students to be able to access technology as a learning tool! Therefore, iPads will be issued to each student in the near future.

If it is necessary for an adult to confiscate your child's cellphone because he or she was using it while prohibited, then it will remain in the main office until the end of the day as a warning. The second time it is confiscated, we will call you to pick the cellphone up from school after a three day period. If it happens a third time, your child will receive a disciplinary consequence for failing to follow school rules and we will confiscate phone for a month.

Thank you in advance for partnering with our school in order to provide a safe and productive learning environment for our students. Please contact me with your questions or concerns.

Respectfully,

Dr. Angela M. Bento – Principal  
"A CHAMPION FOR STUDENTS"  
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