



# Cell phones emerging in the halls

## Staff editorial

We believe that cell phones should be allowed in the hallways during school. Cell phones have become an important asset in students' everyday lives. Colleges and businesses allow cell phone use, so it makes sense for high schools, which are preparing us for the "real world," to allow cell phone use. They are a versatile means for communication.

Many schools throughout the country have passed bans or restrictions on the use of cell phones on their premises, some even using a jammer system that blocked all access to network coverage. While such restrictions are supported by the ideas that cell phones could cause distractions, be used to cheat, and cause disruptions in class, there is also some good amongst cell phone use.

Under the rule of these policies, any student caught with their cell phone out during school is liable to get their cell phone confiscated by teachers and staff. However, the use of the cell phones shouldn't be a disruption to any class. As long as the use of cell phones in the hallways doesn't

disrupt the classes for teachers, then cell phone use should be allowed in the hallways, though students shouldn't be allowed to use their phones during class or lunch.

The reform of these policies is very possible if the school board agrees to change it. If the rules mentioned before are enforced, students would find it difficult to use their cell phones to cheat, waste time, or disrupt class.

The argument could be made that cell phones could be misused despite rule change. Students could use them to take videos and photos of other students involved in violent, immature, or inappropriate actions. Such actions could be countered with harsh punishments, such as longer confiscation times, and demerits issued along with the misuse.

We believe that cell phones should be allowed in the hallways as long as class isn't disrupted. As long as classes aren't disturbed by cell phone usage, students should have the right to use their cell phone in the hallway. Society is advancing all around us. Yet schools are reluctant to embrace advancing technologies. If this continues, students will be behind the technological curve when they graduate from high school.