

Mary McLeod Bethune Day Academy, the Office of the State Superintendent for Education (OSSE), and other entities overseeing standardized test practices establish guidelines and restrictions on student access to personal electronic devices, such as cell phones, within the test environment. These restrictions are designed to maintain test security and to minimize potential distractions while students are taking tests.

### Tips to Avoid Testing Issues Related to Personal Electronic Devices

1. **Leave it at home.** Students are strongly encouraged, though not required, to leave personal electronic devices at home on days when they are taking standardized tests.
2. **Lock it up.** If students forget and bring their personal devices to school on a testing day, they will need to give it to their teacher to store the device at school to avoid taking it into the testing environment.
3. **Know the consequences.** If a student fails to secure his or her personal electronic device and brings it into the test environment, he or she will be subject to procedures for addressing test security concerns. Depending on the type of test and the situation, this could include penalties up to and including:
  - Confiscating the student's personal device
  - Rescheduling the student's test session to another day or time
  - Identifying the student's actions as a disruption or as attempted cheating, which could affect the student's score.