Cell Phones In School? Absolutely Not!

Imagine if you’re taking a very important test that you studied very hard for. You look at your peer and you see her phone out and she’s texting her friend for all the answers. Your nostrils flare and you grunt. How come she gets free answers? Is that really fair? Cell phones should not be allowed in schools because cell phones don’t make life better for students, grades drop when cell phones are present, and they aren’t needed during a school emergency.

Cell phones don’t make life better for students! Research shows that social skills are reduced and delayed when students are allowed to use smartphones rather than talk to others. School is a place for learning by listening, speaking, and hands-on activities - excluding electronics. “You can also gain bad posture from being on your phones too much,” health experts say. When students are allowed on their phones, they can easily cyberbully or get cyberbullied. Over half the young people in a recent study said that they'd been cyberbullied. When someone is constantly checking their phone, they miss things and this makes them less intelligent, less creative, and less thoughtful. Also, not everyone has a cell phone, so this gives advantages to some and it is unfair.

Others may say that phones can help tune out distraction because you can listen to music, cell phones help people stay organized, and many of the textbooks are online so you don’t have to carry a heavy book around and damage your back. But, pen & paper, blackboard & chalk, and class computers also work, and not everyone may want to use an electronic to help them. Also, inappropriate cell phone use became East Bay School's top discipline issue, and it can anywhere else. "If you listen to music while
working, your productivity will decrease and it harms the brain,” neuroscientists begin to say. So will you make your future better and not use your cell phone as much?

Also, grades drop when cell phones are present. When students use their phone during the day, they may not do their work and grades drop severely. Five minutes is about the time that it takes to refocus on what you were doing before. The effect of this is not remembering the lesson and then the work is neglected. When students are constantly on their phones at school, they most likely are at home, too. Homework easily piles up when you don’t do it in school, and stress & unorderliness occur when this happens. Then, homework probably isn’t getting done at home either and grades easily drop. A study was recorded and the results showed that when cell phones were present during a school lesson, the students scored 5% lower on an exam rather than those who didn’t. Nowadays, university and degrees are required more than they used to be, so if phones are always used you cannot work toward those goals. And if you’re always on your phone, then you probably don’t receive enough sleep and the body doesn’t function as it should. It is hard enough to get into a college but getting a degree is even harder! A cell phone just gets in the way! Those who oppose no cell phones in school may say that phones will help students remember to do their homework and it has everything you need on it (calculators, textbooks, etc). They may also say that students can use documents and do online homework so they’re more motivated to do homework, and their grades don’t drop as severely. Yet, when students are in class, they are tempted to play games or search the Internet rather than doing schoolwork. Then, their grades continue to drop. You don’t want that to happen to you, do you?
Here it is plain and simple: Cell phones aren't needed during a school emergency. While many parents are supportive of banning cell phones in school - said the parents during a school meeting at San Mateo High School - they're all concerned about how to reach their child during emergencies. Schools suggest calling the front office if they need to get in touch with someone who is at school. School emergencies are terrifying, and when students text their guardians to come pick them up, it can cause unwanted or harmful parent groups coming to pick up their child. Schools may get delayed in reunifying the families if students text parents to come and pick them up.

Also, in this situation - or any in general - students may be misinformed or frightened from posts or texts on the phone. Some may say that parents should at least be able to know if their child is safe, but that goes back to the previous text. And, ringing, buzzing, and other cell phone noises could draw unwanted visitors inside the school campus to students who may be trying to hide. It could also disrupt the teacher when he or she is trying to give instructions and other students may not be able to hear because of the noises coming from cell phones. You want to be as safe as possible, right?

So all in all, there should not be cell phones during school because students' futures are better without these devices; when phones are in the classroom, scores lower; and in urgent situations, phones are not necessary. I need cell phones out of the classroom, and out of school!