

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## Education: How did it go from “Absolutely NOT” to Absolutely NO Control?

### *Cell Phone or Cellular Entertainment Systems?*

Palm Beach Gardens, Florida (October 2, 2023) – When I was in school, if I would’ve entered my classroom and put a TV, a radio with tape player, a video game console, a camera, a video camcorder, and a telephone on my desk my teacher would’ve looked at me like I’d lost my mind!

Cell Phone??



Or Cellular  
Entertainment  
System



People call these magical little devices ‘cell phones.’ At TechnoArts Academy (new Florida charter school), we are calling them exactly what they are... Cellular Entertainment Systems or CES.

How did classrooms, schools and education change? How did schools go from “Absolutely NOT!” to absolutely NO control? Here’s what a typical day is like for a teacher now:

Teacher: *Johnny, I told you 6 times to put the cell phone in your backpack. Our class and school rule is that if I see a cell phone out during class, I take it until the end of class. Hand over your phone and you’ll get it back at the end of class.*

Johnny: *I’m texting my Mom because she texted me a question. (Most of the class has taken out their cell phones now).*

Teacher: *I didn’t ask who you are texting. You are not allowed to have your cell phone out or be using it so hand it to me and you will get it back at the end of class.*

Johnny: *NO!! You can't f---(explicative) take my phone!! It's mine, my parents paid for it, not you, and if you try and take it I'll tell my parents! Everyone else is on their phone so why are you just picking on ME? This is discrimination!*

Teacher: (Looks around – just about every student is on their phone) *I need everyone to put their cell phones away!!!!*

Johnny: *If no one else has to give you their phone neither do !!! You can't discriminate against just ME? I'm telling my parents what you're doing to me!!*

Teacher: *I need everyone to put your cell phones away!!! I WILL TAKE ALL OF THEM!!!*

Class – Ignores teacher. The bell rings.

What control do teachers have in their classrooms anymore? Kids are so obsessed with their phones; they act like if you take their phone away it's equivalent to taking one of their arms!

Who's to blame? You can't blame the kids; they're just doing what we are allowing them to do. We are acting like we are "afraid" of kids! What we're "afraid" of is the disrespect we get from this generation when it comes to their phones. The cursing and disrespect towards teachers when teachers try to enforce the rules is out of control.

When did the tables get turned in the classroom!??

There are numerous schools and districts now taking a stand against these Cellular Entertainment Systems (aka cell phones) and completely not allowing them to even make their way on campus. Kudos to these schools and districts!

Many states have passed "no cell phone *use* in classrooms" however, if the kids are allowed to have cell phones on them that doesn't change much. I can't tell you how many times I heard the "I'm texting my Mom/Dad story!" The only way to change this is to not allow cell phones (or Cellular Entertainment Systems) on the student or in their backpack during the school day.

TechnoArts Academy will be following this protocol and hope to see other Florida schools take a bigger stand against this very serious problem. We will NOT be allowing Cellular Entertainment Systems on our students while they are on our campus. This means not in their backpack, pocket, purse, etc. and means watches or electronic devices of any kind.

If I was just fine without my TV, radio with tape player, video game console, camera, video camcorder, and telephone all day long while at school I think this generation will be too. Maybe they'll even learn a thing or two.

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