Dear Students, Parents, and Guardians,

As a result of House Bill 96, the State of Ohio now requires all schools to implement a policy that prohibits the use of cell phones during instructional hours. At Heath City Schools, the instructional day is defined as **8:00 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.** Accordingly, the Heath High School Student Handbook has been updated to reflect the following expectations regarding cell phone and electronic device use:

Cell phones and smartwatches are not permitted for use at any time during the school day. Exceptions may be made for students who need to monitor or address a health concern (physician's documentation required), have specific cell phone accommodations listed in an Individualized Education Program (IEP), or are enrolled in CCP courses that require phone access for two-factor authentication.

Students are expected to keep all devices **off and put away** during school hours. Devices may be used before and after school. Students may either lock their devices in a locker or store them off and away in their backpack.

The use of any electronic device to take photos, record audio, or capture video of another person without their consent is strictly prohibited.

Students who violate these expectations will face disciplinary action as outlined in the Code of Conduct and detailed below.

Progressive Discipline for Cell Phone Violations:

- **1st Offense**: The student will be directed to bring their phone to the office, where it will be secured in a safe. The student may retrieve it at the end of the school day.
- **2nd Offense**: The student will be directed to bring their phone to the office, where it will be secured in a safe. A parent/guardian must pick up the phone, and the student will receive a detention.
- **3rd Offense**: The student will be directed to bring their phone to the office, where it will be secured in a safe. A parent/guardian must pick up the phone, and the student will serve one day of in-school detention.
- **4th and Subsequent Offenses**: The student will be directed to bring their phone to the office, where it will be secured in a safe. A parent/guardian must pick up the phone. The student will be suspended out of school and, upon return, will be required to turn in their phone to the office each morning for the remainder of the school year (or as otherwise determined).

Please note: Failure to surrender a phone to a staff member upon request may result in additional disciplinary consequences.