

## **Brighter Choice Charter Schools' Cell Phone Plan/Policy**

Beginning 2025–2026 school year, the New York State Distraction-Free Schools law prohibits the use of personal devices—including cell phones and tablets—by students during the school day on school grounds. Use of school-issued Chromebooks is permitted when assigned by school staff and used in accordance with the school's Chromebook policy.

It is recommended that BCCS scholars keep all electronic devices at home. This includes cell phones, tablets, and iPads. However, if a cell phone is required for afterschool communication, the below procedures will be in place. Brighter Choice is not responsible for the loss or damage of any personal devices brought onto campus.

- Cell phones turned off and given to the scholar's classroom teacher upon morning arrival.
- Classroom teachers will store scholars' cell phones in a secure lock box and return them at the end of the school day.

Scholars will be able to utilize the school's main office for emergency calls only. Parents and guardians can also call the school's main office to communicate important information or reminders to their scholars. Please note that scholars are discouraged from calling home for forgotten items.