

### Behavior Management Plan: The Texting Student

Student Profile: Harmony is a 9th grade student who is consistently texting and surfing the Internet during classroom lecture. She try's to hide the fact that she is texting by holding her phone under her desk on her lap. She is constantly repeating this behavior and seems to be obsessively attached to her phone.

Purpose of the Behavior: The student texts and surfs the web during class because the student is avoid the feeling of boredom during a classroom lecture they are most likely disinterested in. The student feels that texting during class is a way they can communicate with others without distracting their classmates. Many students feels that texting and surfing should be an acceptable behavior as long as they appear to be paying attention and are completing their assignments accurately. Students feel the need to text in class because they feel the need to know what the plan is for after school and what their friends are posting on Facebook to avoid feeling out of the loop when the bell rings.

#### Two Teacher Perspectives

- " I just ask them to put their phones away then ten minutes later I have to ask again until they get the message if your content is engaging the behavior will not be an issue so keep it engaging" Kristen Symer-Payton 4 year veteran High School Math
- "My strategy to modify the behavior is to take the phone away and text the person the student was texting once they know this is how I deal with the behavior they avoid texting in class" Deanna Humphry 15 year veteran 8th grade History

#### Strategies to Modify the Behavior

- Be a good role model for students and try not to use your cell phone in class
- Implement a classroom technology use policy- Research shows that 54% of students agree with this idea
- Use technology as a tool during classroom lecture
- Make sure students know that it is disrespectful to look away from someone when they are speaking to you
- Let students know that texting in class is distracting to other students and that if they are texting they are less likely to recall useful information from lecture

#### Online Resources

<http://headhearthand.org/blog/2013/11/13/7-ways-to-stop-students-texting-in-class/>

#### References

Watters A (2011) Texting in the Classroom: Not Just a Distraction edutopia.com