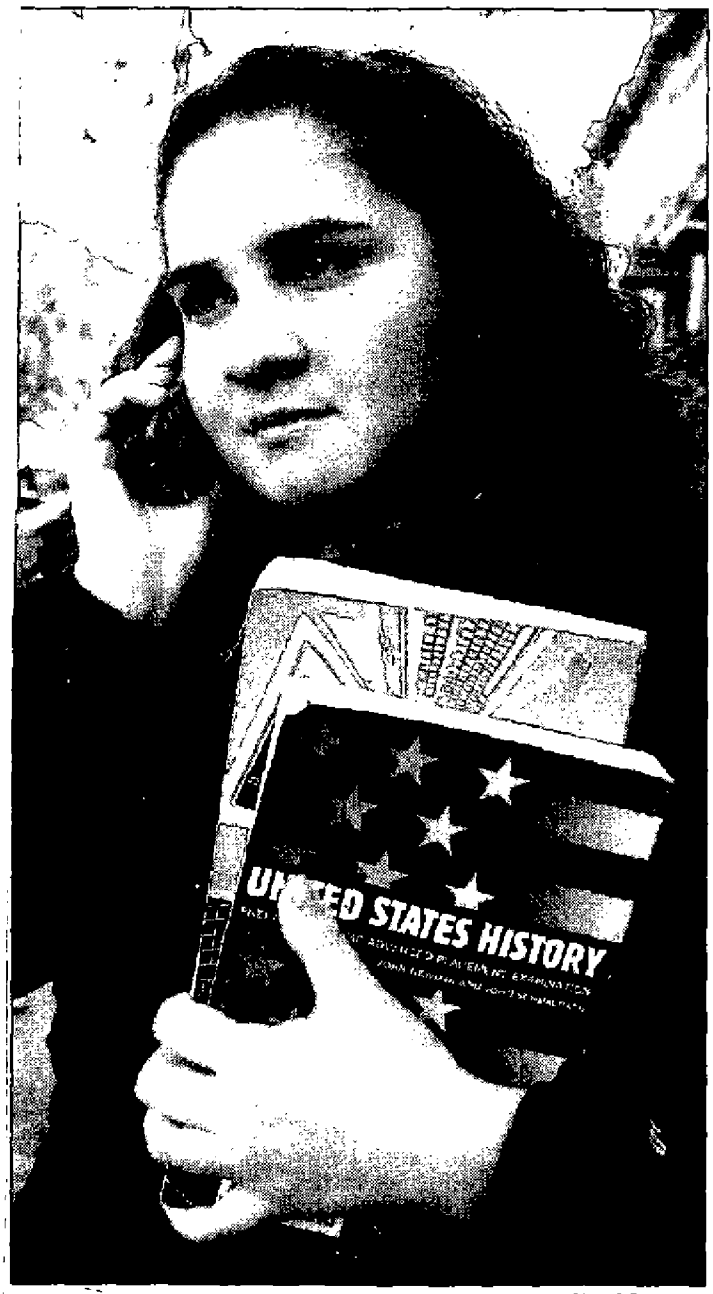
NYC 9/11 Public Portal Document

DAILY NEWS, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2001



DEBBIE EGAN-CHIN

ON CALL Simone Press, 15, whose mom wants her to tote cell phone to school, chats on street in Sunset Park, Brooklyn.

Levy says cell fones OK in class

By ELIZABETH HAYS
DAILY NEWS STAFF WRITER

Public school students should be allowed to carry cell phones in school — as long as the phones are turned off, Schools Chancellor Harold Levy said yesterday.

Under the current rules of the Board of Education, students are banned from bringing cell phones, beepers and other electronic devices onto school grounds.

But since the World Trade Center attacks, many parents and students have urged the board to change its policy, arguing that cell phones provide a crucial communication link for families.

"My inclination is that in the current environment, [the policy] is unrealistic — and we ought to allow them in," Levy told reporters yesterday. "What I'm saying is bring them in, but turn them off. You can't have them on in class."

Board members are slated to discuss the issue at their regular monthly meeting tonight.

A Levy spokesman said it is unclear what steps would be required to change the cell phone ban, which dates to the late 1980s.

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