

Simi Valley Unified School District
101 West Cochran Street Simi Valley, California 93065
(805) 306-4500 www.simivalleyusd.org

Purpose:

To establish clear and consistent guidelines and consequences for students who engage in willful damage to district-owned electronic devices. It also addresses inappropriate use and handling of these devices to ensure their proper care and longevity. The policy aligns with the California Educational Code 48904 (b)(1) and 48900(f) to enforce consequences for such actions.

Definition of Willful Damage:

Willful damage is defined as any deliberate action that causes harm to a district-owned electronic device, including but not limited to physical destruction, intentional software manipulation, or any other improper use or handling of the device that renders the device inoperable or significantly reduces its functionality. Improper handling of the device is outlined below.

Proper Use and Management of District-Owned Electronic Devices:

- A. Removing Protective Case: Students must not remove protective cases from the devices, as they play a crucial role in safeguarding the equipment from accidental damage.
- B. Improper Storage: Students are expected to store district-owned electronic devices in designated safe areas when not in use, such as in secure lockers or backpack compartments.
- C. Improper Handling: Carrying the device by the screen, running with the device, or throwing backpacks containing the device are strictly prohibited, as these actions can lead to irreparable damage.
- D. Liquid Damage: Students should avoid exposing electronic devices to liquids or any other damaging substances.
- E. Placement of Stickers: Placing stickers or any other adhesive materials on district-owned devices is not allowed as they may damage the equipment and void warranties.

Consequences for Vandalism and Inappropriate Device Use:

- A. Restitution: In the event of device damage due to vandalism or inappropriate use, the responsible student and their parent/guardian may be required to provide full or partial restitution for the repair or replacement costs as per California Educational Code 48904 (b)(1).
- B. Transcript and Grades Withholding: Pursuant to California Educational Code 48904 (b)(1), the school reserves the right to withhold transcripts, grades, and other academic records of students who fail to return district-owned property or who have outstanding balances for damages incurred until the issue is resolved.
- C. Disciplinary Action: Under California Educational Code 48900(f), students involved in acts of vandalism, including damaging district-owned property, may be subject to disciplinary action, which may include but is not limited to detention, suspension, or expulsion, depending on the severity of the offense.

Reporting Damages and Repairs:

- A. Students are encouraged to report any damages to district-owned electronic devices to their teachers or the school administration as soon as possible.
- B. The school administration will conduct thorough investigations into reported damages to determine responsibility and appropriate actions for restitution and disciplinary measures.

Education and Awareness:

The school will conduct a [presentation](#) to students emphasizing the importance of responsible device usage, proper care, and respect for school property.

Parent/Guardian Responsibility:

Parents/guardians are encouraged to support the school's efforts by discussing the proper use and care of district-owned electronic devices with their children and ensuring they adhere to the guidelines outlined in this policy.