

443.7 - STUDENT USE AND POSSESSION OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES

As a privilege and with the primary goal of encouraging students to use technology in a responsible manner for educational purposes, students may be granted limited permission to possess and use personal electronic devices at school (before, during and/or after the normal school day) and/or in other school-supervised settings. Such limited permission shall be consistent with the following general parameters:

1. The District shall not be responsible for the safety or security of personal electronic equipment that students choose to bring to school. Students who bring any personal electronic device(s) to school do so at their own risk to possible theft, damage, misappropriation of data/equipment, or other loss.
2. The rapid expansion of communications technologies, the increasing prevalence of multi-function devices, and the extent, to which numerous electronic devices are now Internet-enabled, lead the Board to conclude that the regulation of electronic communications devices has become merged with the broader topic of acceptable use of technology within the school setting.

Accordingly, the Board delegates to the administration the authority to develop, implement, enforce, and revise as necessary rules that govern students' acceptable use of technology in a manner that incorporates specific expectations related to students' possession and use of communications devices and other personal electronic devices.

- a. Students in the various schools have different needs, levels of understanding, and maturity levels. Accordingly, rules regarding student possession and use of communications devices and other personal electronic devices may differentiate among students by grade level or on another reasonable basis.
- b. The rules may address both instructional and non-instructional uses of the devices.
- c. The rules shall permit students at all grade levels to use a personal electronic device to contact a responsible adult in any emergency situation that involves an immediate threat to the health or safety of any person. When carrying out school emergency response plans, however, students may be asked to turn off their personal electronic devices so emergency communication networks are not overwhelmed and emergency response efforts are not jeopardized.
- d. At all times other than emergencies as identified in the paragraph above, permission to possess and/or use personal electronic devices at school or in any school-supervised setting shall be subject to further modification or limitation by

- a teacher, activity supervisor, or any school administrator.
- e. Consistent with state law requirements, a copy of the District's rules regarding student possession and use of electronic communications devices shall be provided to students on an annual basis.
3. Students who receive limited permission to possess and/or use any personal electronic device receive those permissions as a privilege, not a right. Students, who violate any law or any applicable school policy, rule, or directive in connection with their possession or use of personal electronic devices shall be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with established procedures.
 4. Nothing within this policy or in any rules established in connection with this policy shall be construed to limit a student's ability to use an electronic device in a manner that functions as assistive technology necessary for a student's education and that is required under an individualized education program (IEP) or a Section 504 plan.

Legal Ref: Sections 118.258; 120.13(1); 947.0125; and 995.50(2)(a) of Wisconsin Statutes

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