

## STUDENT USE OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT

In alignment with our mission to prepare students to achieve their academic, social, and emotional potential, the objective of this policy is to strengthen Caesar Rodney School District's focus on learning. To support school environments in which students can fully engage with classmates, teachers, and instruction, the Caesar Rodney School District Board of Education has determined the use of personal electronic devices (including, cell phones, tablets, earbuds, headphones, or any other electronic device which distracts from student learning) by students during school hours should be limited.

Smart watches that serve a dual purpose may be worn, but the phone features (texting, Internet viewing, and calls) are to be off when phone use is prohibited. If a student needs to call home for a reason determined to be appropriate by school staff, they may request a pass to the main office for phone access.

**Students in grades K-5:** Student's personal electronic devices are to be powered off upon entry into the school building, remain powered off in the student's backpack during the school day until dismissal, at which time students may power on their devices.

**Students in grades 6-8:** Student's personal electronic devices are to be powered off upon entry into the school building, remain powered off in the student's locker until dismissal, at which time students may power on their devices. The use of student devices for sports or any other after school activity, is at the discretion of the coach/club sponsor.

**Students in grades 9-12:** Student's personal electronic devices are to be silenced and put away during all instructional periods. Personal electronic devices may be used on campus before the first bell, after the last bell, during passing periods, and lunches, however, the use of these devices are prohibited in restrooms and locker rooms.

**Students are not permitted to use the recording feature of a cell phone during the school day including in restrooms and locker rooms.**

The principal is authorized to establish procedures to determine whether exceptional circumstances require an individual waiver of this policy including medical and special education necessity.

Students who do not comply are subject to disciplinary action, as indicated in the progressive code of conduct, which may include parent/guardian notification and/or confiscation of the device.

Any device that is confiscated shall be considered contraband until such time as it is returned to the student or parent, and Caesar Rodney School District takes no responsibility for the loss or theft of, or damage to, a student's personal electronic device, whether confiscated or otherwise.