

Purpose

Greene County Public Schools is committed to maintaining a safe and healthy learning environment for students. While recognizing the educational benefits of electronic devices, the district acknowledges that personally owned devices can be distracting, disruptive in the classroom, and raise safety and privacy concerns for students, staff, and faculty. To protect instructional time and foster a positive learning atmosphere, Greene County Public Schools is dedicated to prohibiting the use of personal electronic communication devices during the school day.

Definitions

For the purpose of this policy, and the School Board's interpretation and application of the policy, the following general definitions apply:

- A. "Personally owned electronic communication device" means any device that is used for audio, video, or text communication or any other portable communication device that can be used to receive or transmit electronic information that is not owned or issued by the school division. These devices include but are not limited to laptops, tablets, iPods, iPads, cell phones, smartphones, wireless headphones, smart watches, gaming devices, virtual reality devices, etc.
- B. "School Day" refers to the designated period beginning when students enter the school building and continuing until the final dismissal bell rings.

Generally

Student use of any personally owned electronic device shall adhere to the following:

1. Greene County Public Schools assumes no liability for the loss, theft, or damage of any student-owned electronic device or the information stored on the device.
2. Use of personally owned electronic devices during the school day:
 - a. High school, middle school, and elementary students may NOT use personally owned electronic devices during the school day.
 - b. High school and middle school students may use personally owned electronic devices after school, at extracurricular events after school hours, and on buses.
 - c. Student-owned electronic device use on buses is permitted as long as the use of such devices is not disruptive or distracting; students must use earbuds or headphones when listening to music or watching videos with sound while on the bus.
3. Personally owned electronic communication devices must be concealed in a separate container such as a book bag or purse, and off.
4. Students may only use headphones provided by GCPS to connect to GCPS issued electronic devices.

5. Exceptions to this policy, for example for medical reasons, must be approved by the principal on a case-by-case basis. Exceptions based on legal requirements in state or federal law do not require principal approval.

6. Violations of this policy will be disciplined accordingly.

7. The use of student-owned electronic devices anywhere on school property shall be governed by these policies:

- a. Students shall comply with all local, state and federal laws related to personally owned technology.
- b. Students shall comply with the Greene County Public Schools Acceptable Computer System Use Policy (IIBEA).
- c. Students shall comply with all other applicable school rules including, but not limited to, no cheating, bullying, or unauthorized sharing of assignments or information on assessments.
- d. Students shall not use devices to record, transmit, or post photographic images or video of a person or persons.

8. Greene County Public Schools reserves the right to:

- a. Monitor and log activity of student-owned devices on the GCPS network.
- b. Determine when and where student-owned devices may connect to the GCPS network.
- c. Make determinations on whether specific uses of student-owned devices are consistent with the Division's Acceptable Computer System Use Policy
- d. Regulate the user's access to the GCPS network.