

## 5516 USE OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES

To support school environments in which students can fully engage with their classmates and their teachers, and to focus attention upon instruction, the Board of Education has determined the use of cell phones and other electronic communication devices by students for personal use during the school day and school activities should be limited.

As used in this Policy, “electronic communication device” includes any device with the capability to audio or video record and/or is capable of receiving or transmitting any type of communication with others. An electronic communication device includes, but is not limited to, any type of cameras; cellular and wireless telephones; pagers/beepers; laptop computers; watches; electronic readers; two-way radios; any audio or video broadcasting devices; ear buds; tablets; headphones; and any other device that allows a person to audio and/or video record and/or transmit, in either a real time or a delayed basis, video or still images, text, audio recordings; or other information.

The Board adopts Regulation 5516 and this Policy to address student use of an electronic communication device for personal use on school grounds during the school day, to also include, but not be limited to: during before and after school programs; during any co-curricular activity; and on a school bus.

Nothing in Regulation 5516 and this Policy shall prohibit a student from using an electronic communication device for a purpose documented in a classified student’s Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or a plan developed under Section 504 of the “Rehabilitation Act of 1973,” 29 USC 794. A student may use an electronic communication device to monitor or address a health condition with prior permission from the Principal, in consultation with the school nurse to be documented in the student’s Individual Health Plan.

In addition, the Board believes students and/or school staff members should not be subject to having any type of recording taken of any student(s) or school staff member(s) for any purpose without the consent of the student and the student’s parent or the school staff member. In addition to protecting the privacy rights of students and school staff members, the Board recognizes such recordings can be disruptive to the educational program. Inappropriate recordings of educational material, student assessment instruments, and/or student assessment reviews can be used to compromise the integrity of the district’s educational program or lead to academic dishonesty in the event such recordings are stored and/or transmitted to other students.

Adopted: 2025-02-18



## R 5516 USE OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES

The following provisions govern student use of electronic communication devices on school grounds.

### A. Use of Electronic Communication Devices

1. Students are permitted to use an electronic communication device during the school day
  - at lunch time;
  - at recess;
  - at times approved by the teacher for instructional purposes;
  - on a school bus at times designated by the Principal or designee;
2. Under no circumstances is a student permitted to use an electronic communication device to communicate or take videos or photographs in a restroom, locker room, shower area, or any other area where any person is removing or changing cloths and/or in any other area or location where a person has a reasonable expectation of privacy. Student use of an electronic communication device for communicating or recording is also subject to the provisions of Policy 5516 and this Regulation.
3. Students are encouraged not to bring electronic communication devices to school. If a student chooses to bring an electronic communication device(s) to school, the device(s) shall be turned off by the student and passcode protected to prevent any unauthorized use of the device. The electronic communication device shall remain in the student's backpack/book bag or locker during the school day when its use is not authorized in accordance with Policy 5516 and this Regulation.



# REGULATION

## SAYREVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION

STUDENTS

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### Use of Electronic Communication Devices

4. If a student brings an electronic communication device to school, the student assumes the risk of damage, theft, or loss of the electronic communication device. The school district is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged devices.
  5. If a student needs to be in contact with their parent(s) during a time the student is not permitted to use an electronic device, the student shall request permission from a teaching staff member to go to the main office to use the school phone. If a parent(s) needs to be in contact with their student for an emergency, the parent(s) shall contact the main office.
- B. Discipline
1. Any violation of this Regulation shall be addressed in accordance with Policy and Regulation 5600 Student Code of Conduct.

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