



Book	Policy Manual
Section	8000 - Students
Title	8506 - Student Use of Personal Electronic Devices
Code	8500 - Student Rights, Responsibilities and Conduct
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At Pocatello School District 25, we understand the critical role technology plays in today's educational landscape. However, we also recognize that certain electronic communication devices, such as cell phones, can present distractions that hinder our mission to Think, Be, and Learn More Together. With mounting evidence showing that unrestricted access to these devices can negatively impact students' emotional well-being, safety, and academic progress, we are committed to creating an environment where focus, engagement, and personal growth take precedence.

Definitions:

Personal Electronic Communication Device - defined as any privately-owned electronic device that is used for communication or accessing information. This includes, but is not limited to, smartphones, tablets, laptops, smartwatches, ear buds and similar devices that can send or receive messages, make calls, access the internet, or connect to social media.

School Day – School Day is defined as the official start time to the official end time including class periods, passing periods, recess and assemblies. For activities that take place off-campus when students are normally in school, such as field trips, trip-specific personal electronic communication device regulations will be established by the trip facilitator.

Not on Person – Personal Electronic Communication Device must be stored in a student's locker, backpack, purse or vehicle. These devices should not be seen or heard.

During the School Day the use of personal electronic communication devices is strictly prohibited in all district schools. Students must keep their personal electronic communication devices turned off, out of sight, and not on their person while on school campuses or at school activities for the duration of the school day. Personal electronic communication devices may be stored in a backpack or locker. **The only exception is that high school students may use their devices during their lunch periods.**

Use of personal electronic communication devices is a privilege and not a right. Students are required to adhere to requirements outlined in this policy.

Any violation of this policy, or use of a personal electronic communication device which involves illegal activity, disruption of the educational process or climate of the school, causing harm to another individual, bullying, intimidation, threats, sexting, academic dishonesty, violating another individual's privacy, or any other prohibited activity while at school will result in disciplinary action. Devices may

be turned over to law enforcement when appropriate. Devices will not be returned to the student until a conference is held with the parent/guardian. Such conference may be held over the phone when necessary.

The use of cameras or audio recording on any type of personal electronic communication device is strictly prohibited in locker rooms, restrooms, or any school property.

Students shall comply with any additional rules developed by the school concerning appropriate use of telecommunication or other personal communication electronic devices.

Violations of this policy may lead to disciplinary measures, such as forfeiting device privileges on school grounds, detention, suspension, or expulsion and confiscation of the device.

Students are responsible for safeguarding all personal devices. The district shall not be responsible for loss, damage or theft of personal devices. District personnel are not responsible for providing technical support for personal devices.

The requirements outlined in this policy shall not apply if they conflict with a student's 504 Plan or Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

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