

Book	Policy Manual
Section	8000 - Students
Title	8506P - Student Use of Personal Electronic Devices
Code	8500 - Student Rights, Responsibilities and Conduct
Status	Active
Adopted	June 18, 1996
Last Revised	March 11, 2025
Prior Revised Dates	4/16/2019; 7/20/2021; 06/21/2022

Pocatello/Chubbuck School District 25 is dedicated to cultivating an educational environment that prioritizes mental health, academic achievement, and character growth. Our aim is to create a school culture where students are fully engaged, free from distractions, and actively involved in their learning journey. We strive to ensure that every student can thrive in a supportive, focused atmosphere.

Expectation for:

Students:

- Follow the cell phone policy by keeping phones, watches powered off and out of sight and not on their person during school hours. Devices may be stored in a backpack or locker. The only exception is that high school students may use their personal electronic communication devices during their lunch periods at school.
- Respect the rules regarding phone usage and understand the purpose behind them.
- Personal earbuds and headphones are prohibited.

Parents/Guardians:

- Contact the school's main office for urgent communication with their child, with the office facilitating communication with the classroom teacher. Parent's/guardian's should not expect to communicate with their children using personal electronic communication devices during the school day. Parents who need to communicate with their child in the case of an emergency, should call the front office and communicate with the school personnel about the nature of the emergency. As appropriate, this will be communicated to the student impacted by the emergency.

Staff:

- Supervise students to ensure cell phones are not visible during school hours.
- Set a positive example by demonstrating appropriate phone usage.
- Consistently enforce the policy, collaborating with families when issues arise.
- Substituting instructional activities with personal communication devices is prohibited. Including allowing them to be used as a reward or during "free-time"
- Confiscated devices will be turned into the school office as soon as possible in which the device is confiscated.

Administration:

- Support staff in enforcing the policy consistently across the school.
- Handle violations in accordance with the outlined procedures, including communicating with parents/guardians when necessary.
- Review the policy to ensure its effectiveness and adjust as needed based on feedback from the school community.
- Implement progressive discipline if policy violations persist.

Discipline Procedure for Electronic Communication Device Policy Violations**Purpose:**

Establish a fair and consistent process for addressing breaches of the school district's electronic communications device policy, promoting responsible cell phone use for an optimal learning environment. The discipline procedures will start over from year to year and not be progressive from previous years.

First Violation: Verbal Warning and Device Confiscation

The student receives a verbal warning from staff and the device is turned in and stored in the main office, retrievable by the student or parent/guardian. The parent/guardian will be contacted by school administration. Documented in Infinite Campus.

Second Violation: Continued Confiscation and Parent Involvement

The device is confiscated and stored in the main office, retrievable solely by the parent/guardian. Documented in infinite campus.

Subsequent offenses:

The device will be turned in and returned to a parent/guardian. A meeting with the student, parent/guardian, and an administrator will be scheduled.

The district will use *reasonable* care to safeguard turned in devices by designating a locked storage area, but does not assume liability in the event such turned in device is lost, stolen or damaged.

Extensions for Students with IEPs, 504 Plans and Health Plans:

Students with IEPs, 504 plans, or Health Plans that necessitate the use of personal electronic communication devices as part of their accommodation will be allowed to use their devices in accordance with their plan. These students will work with the IEP and 504 teams to establish a clear plan for device usage that supports their learning and well-being.

Additional Guidelines:

Noncompliance: Failure to surrender the device upon request is considered insubordination, warranting immediate intervention by school administration.

Emergency Situations:

In cases of emergency necessitating immediate access to personal electronic communication devices, the school staff may address on a case-by-case basis, exercising discretion.