

PCSD 25 CELL PHONE POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES

April 1, 2025

Call to Order: 5:00 p.m.

Committee Members Present:

Tonya Wilkes – Director	Ellen Laggis – Administrator
AJ Watson – Director	Lyndsey Matthews - Teacher
Susan Pettit – Director	Mayor Blad – Comm. Member
Courtney Fisher – Director	Maribel Mendez – Teacher -
Raymond Knoff – Board Member	Steven Morton - Administrator
Amanda Prather – Parent	Jodi Prestwich – Administrator - <i>absent</i>
Aubrey Eldredge – Teacher	Amber Tews - Parent
Darcy Brockman – Parent - <i>absent</i>	Lauren Dalton - Parent
Holly Lacey – Administrator	Megan Furniss – Board Member
Tara Jensen - Clerk	

Call to Order – 5:01 p.m.

Welcome and Introduction

Ms. Wilkes welcomed the committee and thanked everyone for their time and commitment to this committee.

Overview of Meeting Goals, Norms and Objectives

- Review, discuss, evaluate Policy 8506 – Student Use of Personal Electronic Devices.
- Balance the educational benefits of technology with the potential disruptions caused by unrestricted phone use.
- Create a safe and conducive learning environment while addressing the diverse needs of students, teachers and parents.
- Support learning while promoting student well-being and safety

Review DRAFT Cell Phone Policy and Procedures

- Discuss Draft Policy and Procedure

Ms. Wilkes said that included in the packet were the draft policy and procedure 8506 and 8506p. She said she wanted the committee to look at the policy section first. She asked the committee to read through the first paragraph. She asked if there was any feedback for the first paragraph and there was no feedback.

Ms. Wilkes said when we talk with parents regarding the policy and procedure, she will also give them the resources that go along with it so they can have the evidence. She asked the committee to look next at the definitions. Ms. Lacey asked if there will be anything that says exception of Chromebooks in the policy or procedure and Ms. Wilkes said no because this is strictly for student use of “personal” electronic devices and Chromebooks are district provided. Ms. Wilkes asked the committee to look at the definition of school day. The committee did not like the word purse and asked to use the word bag. Mayor Blad asked about field trips and if students can use their phones on the activities. Ms. Wilkes said in the policy states it will be left up to the trip facilitator. Mayor Blad asked if athletes go to a basketball game and are on the bus if they can use their phones and Ms. Wilkes said those are not considered field trips, they are athletic activities. She said she does not want athletics and activities to be confused with field trips. Ms. Fisher said it was confusing where the sentence said activities and asked if it needed to say “academic” activities. Mr. Morton said he feels it is already covered as it is already covered when their

speech debate coaches go on their trips, they have their own their own expectations for cell phone use.. The committee decided to leave the policy as is and not add the word academic.

Ms. Wilkes asked the committee to read the rest of the page. Mayor Blad asked if there is a debate competition at another high school and a student cannot find their partner if they can text them to see where they are at and Ms. Wilkes said not if those are the guidelines that have already been established.

Ms. Lacey asked if we needed to have the second to last paragraph and Ms. Wilkes said we it had to be there for legal reasons.

Ms. Wilkes asked them to read the rest of the policy. Mayor Blad asked if the committee had talked about cameras and if students could connect to the internet. Ms. Wilkes said the committee did talk about it but students can only use district owned devices that can connect for classes but not their own devices. Mr. Knoff asked if the wording confiscated should be changed and Ms. Wilkes said that was changed last meeting and we will be consistent throughout the policy. Mr. Morton said he would like to add and/or for the expulsion part of the policy.

Ms. Wilkes asked all those in favor of the new policy - 14

Ms. Wilkes asked all those opposed of the new policy – 0

Ms. Wilkes asked the committee to read the first paragraph of the procedure. Ms. Pettit said that the first paragraph is not written in policy language and will need to be adjusted.

Ms. Lacey said under the student section of the procedure the first sentence seems confusing and the same verbiage needs to be used as the policy. She asked if the language can be consistent (backpack, bag, vehicle, locker). Ms. Fisher asked to take off the words at school at the end after lunch periods on the same paragraph.

Ms. Matthews asked if the formatting of bullets can be used under the parent/guardian section like we have for the staff and administrator section as well. Ms. Wilkes said Ms. Jensen and Ms. Fisher will work on this. Ms. Fisher said she also liked in the staff section where it talked about setting a positive tone and the procedure could add encourage your student to follow the policy at all times.

Ms. Lacey said their teachers do not like touching student cell phones and have the student take them down to the office. She said it is the administrators alert to contact parents too. Ms. Prather asked if the procedure can read not seen or heard instead of not visible on the first bullet point under staff. Ms. Laggis asked if “free-time” sentence could be reworded. Mayor Blad asked if a teacher needs to take a call during class time how they are supposed to set a good example? Ms. Pettit said there is a policy for staff for use of electronic devices that they are supposed to follow. Ms. Mendez asked if we could reference that policy number in this procedure as well.

Ms. Prather asked how this information gets out to students and Ms. Wilkes said she and Ms. Fisher will come up with a campaign to get the policy and procedure out and said there is a little bit of funding to use for this as well.

Ms. Fisher said she would add set/model a positive tone to administration as well. Mr. Watson asked what the review the policy means under the administration part and feels it should not be on there.

Ms. Wilkes asked the committee to read over the discipline procedure part. Ms. Pettit said we are talking about a lot of different things and she feels the wording needs to change from cell phone use and Ms. Mendez said those words can be taken out completely.

Ms. Lacey said she worries about retrievable by student or parent/guardian and if that will be done the same across all schools. Mr. Morton said he likes leaving it and also likes having the conversation with the parents. Ms. Wilkes said she is fine either way. Ms. Lacey said she feels we need to be consistent. Mr. Morton said we need to add at the end of the day to the first paragraph. Ms. Pettit said the policy is stating it is student or parent/guardian

and that will give some push back. Ms. Wilkes said she feels we should take off parent/guardian to pick up at the end of the day. Mayor Blad asked if in the high school students can travel to PV-Tec and if that is the end of the day. Ms. Pettit said they have a bus that goes back to the high schools so they can pick up their phones once they get back or if they drive, they can go back to the school to pick it up. Mayor Blad said he can see a lot of fights with parents from this. Ms. Lacey said it is not that black and white and as administrators they are going to work with parents and kids if there are difficulties getting their phones at the end of the day or if it is a first offense. Ms. Dalton asked if we could repeat the same sentence in the second violation of contacting the parent/guardian.

Mayor Blad asked if a student that has English as a second language if they will be able to use e buds? Ms. Lacey said the district provides them with head phones.

Ms. Wilkes asked all those in favor of the new procedure - 14

Ms. Wilkes asked all those opposed of the new procedure – 0

Ms. Wilkes stated that the timeline for this would be to go to the Board of Trustees for first reading April 15th and a second reading May 13th. She said we will be implementing this for the 2025-2026 school year.

Meeting Adjourned at: 5:56 p.m.