

April 15, 2025

To: Board of Education

From: Board Policy Subcommittee

Subject: Board Policy S-11: Student Electronic Devices in Schools

The policy subcommittee reviewed this policy at its meeting on April 9, 2025, and supports the revisions to the policy that align with SB 178. The subcommittee recommended that it be placed on the discussion agenda of the April 15, 2025, board meeting for discussion in order for the board to give direction on how it would like the district to move forward in implementing this new legislation.

If you have any questions or need additional information on this board policy, please contact the superintendent or the board president prior to 5:00 p.m. on April 15, 2025.

Board Policy S-11: Student Electronic Devices in Schools



REFERENCES

[S-11: Administrative Procedures, Student Electronic Devices in Schools](#)

[Utah Code Ann. §53G-8-202, Public School Discipline Policies – Basis of the Policies – Enforcement](#)

[Utah Admin. Code R277-495, Electronic Devices in Public Schools](#)

THE POLICY

The Salt Lake City School District Board of Education recognizes that cell phone and smart device use has increased dramatically among youth and adolescents, and acknowledges research showing that reducing the use of cell phones in class can improve student concentration and learning and reduce pressure caused by social media. ~~recognizes that, depending on how a personal electronic device is used, it may be either a valuable instructional tool or a source of disruption. In consideration of expanding technologies and the prevalence of electronic devices in our society, the board~~ The board allows the responsible use of cell phones and other electronic devices at school in accordance with all applicable state laws, ~~school rules and~~ district administrative procedures, and school rules. ~~Except as authorized by state law or in the accompanying administrative procedures, s~~Students are not allowed to use a cellphone, smart watch, or similar personally-owned technology at school during classroom hours. ~~who bring privately owned electronic devices to school shall not be directed or required to use such devices to complete coursework during the school day. Students who possess and/or use such devices at school or school-sponsored events must be respectful of the educational environment and the rights and privacy of all individuals within the school community.~~ Students and parents should carefully weigh the risks of bringing personal electronic devices to school as they can be damaged, lost, or stolen.

The purpose of this policy is to create clear and consistent expectations for students, staff, and families related to the ~~facilitate the appropriate~~ use of personal electronic devices on school property, ~~during school instructional activities, or at any other school events.~~

The district has set forth its specific processes for implementing this board policy through the accompanying [administrative procedures](#).

No district employee or student shall be subjected to discrimination in employment or any district program or activity on the basis of age, color, disability, gender, gender identity, genetic information, national origin, pregnancy, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status. The district is committed to providing equal access and equal opportunity in its programs, services and employment including its policies, complaint processes, program accessibility, district facility use, accommodations and other Equal Employment Opportunity matters. The district also provides equal access to district facilities for all youth groups listed in Title 36 of the United State Codes, including scouting groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries and complaints regarding unlawful discrimination, harassment, and retaliation: Tina Hatch, Compliance and Investigations/Title IX Coordinator, ~~40640~~ East 100 South, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111, (801) 578-8388. You may also contact the Office for Civil Rights, Denver, CO, (303) 844-5695.

Board Policy S-11: Student Electronic Devices in Schools



REFERENCES

[S-11: Administrative Procedures, Student Electronic Devices in Schools](#)

[Utah Code Ann. §53G-8-202, Public School Discipline Policies – Basis of the Policies – Enforcement](#)

[Utah Admin. Code R277-495, Electronic Devices in Public Schools](#)

THE POLICY

The Salt Lake City School District Board of Education recognizes that cell phone and smart device use has increased dramatically among youth and adolescents, and acknowledges research showing that reducing the use of cell phones in class can improve student concentration and learning and reduce pressure caused by social media. The board allows the responsible use of cell phones and other electronic devices at school in accordance with all applicable state laws, district administrative procedures, and school rules. Except as authorized by state law or in the accompanying administrative procedures, students are not allowed to use a cellphone, smart watch, or similar personally-owned technology at school during classroom hours. Students and parents should carefully weigh the risks of bringing personal electronic devices to school as they can be damaged, lost, or stolen.

The purpose of this policy is to create clear and consistent expectations for students, staff, and families related to the use of personal electronic devices on school property or at school events.

The district has set forth its specific processes for implementing this board policy through the accompanying [administrative procedures](#).

No district employee or student shall be subjected to discrimination in employment or any district program or activity on the basis of age, color, disability, gender, gender identity, genetic information, national origin, pregnancy, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status. The district is committed to providing equal access and equal opportunity in its programs, services and employment including its policies, complaint processes, program accessibility, district facility use, accommodations and other Equal Employment Opportunity matters. The district also provides equal access to district facilities for all youth groups listed in Title 36 of the United State Codes, including scouting groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries and complaints regarding unlawful discrimination, harassment, and retaliation: Tina Hatch, Compliance and Investigations/Title IX Coordinator, 406 East 100 South, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111, (801) 578-8388. You may also contact the Office for Civil Rights, Denver, CO, (303) 844-5695.