

BP 5138 CELL PHONE AND OTHER PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES

The School Board acknowledges the prevalence of personal electronic devices and recognizes their value for communication and information access. The School Board also recognizes that these same devices can negatively impact learning, safety, and the educational environment. Therefore, the District shall regulate student access and use of personal electronic devices within school settings. All school personnel are responsible for ensuring consistent enforcement of this policy.

The District & FNSBSD schools shall maintain communication protocols to enable parents/guardians to contact their students.

Conditions of Use

Personal electronic devices must be turned off and stored in student lockers (6-12) or student backpacks (K-5) during the school day. Elementary and middle school students (K-8) may use their devices before and after school. High school students (9-12) may use their devices during lunch, and before and after school. Building administrators reserve the discretion to implement more restrictive access and use guidelines within their schools. Building administrators are responsible for communicating the conditions of use to students and parents/guardians.

Student access and use of personal electronic devices is a privilege while under school authority. Students will abide by this policy and school personnel directives regarding use. Students are required to turn personal electronic devices over to school personnel when requested. Students who violate applicable school board policies or state or federal law may forfeit this privilege and/or face disciplinary action.

(cf. [1042.1](#) - *Subject to School Authority*)

(cf. [1045](#) - *Student Behavioral Standards*)

(cf. [1045.6](#) - *Contacts with Law Enforcement*)

A personal electronic device confiscated by the District will be secured with reasonable care and returned to the student or parent/guardian unless turned over to law enforcement.

The District assumes no responsibility for loss or damage to personal property of students, including personal electronic devices, whether in the possession of students or if confiscated by school personnel pursuant to this policy.

Exceptions

Use of personal electronic devices for students with documented needs will be outlined in a student's individualized education program (IEP), Section 504 plan, Multilingual plan (ML), or health plan, as determined appropriate by the school team.

Searches

The building administration will not search a student's personal electronic device without parent/guardian consent and under limited conditions.

(cf. [1041.3](#) - *Search and Seizure*)

Safety Considerations

During an emergency, the use of personal electronic devices can hinder emergency response efforts. These devices can distract individuals, clog communication lines, and create unnecessary confusion. To ensure an efficient and effective response, the District will use emergency communication tools to provide information to staff, parents/guardians, and students.