

MOBILE COMMUNICATION DEVICES

Board Policy 5131.8

Los Alamitos Unified School District



PURPOSE AND RATIONALE



PURPOSE & DEFINITION

- Board Direction: Promote a respectful, distraction-free, and connected learning environment.
- Why This Matters:
 - Disruption to instruction
 - Link to increased anxiety and social-emotional harm.
 - Misuse risks (ie: social media, cyberbullying, privacy breach)
 - Current research from CDE and US Department of Education supports limiting device access in schools
 - Assembly Bill 3216
- Definition: Includes, but is not limited to, cell phones, smart watches, AirPods, headphones, earbuds, smart glasses, and gaming devices.



POLICY OVERVIEW



GRADES PK-8

- No student use at any time on campus or during school-related activities (lunch, recess, extended day care).
- Devices must be turned off and stored out of sight.
- Staff may not use device access as a reward or incentive.
- Exceptions regarding the instructional use of these devices shall not be determined by individual staff members. Exceptions must be submitted through the designated school site administrative process in advance and be properly documented.



GRADES 9-12

- Students may have their mobile devices in their possession, but may not use them during instructional time.
- Device use is permitted during non-instructional time (ie: lunch, passing period, before/after school), consistent with site rules.
- Devices must be off and stored during class.
- Staff may not use device access as a reward or incentive.
- Exceptions regarding the instructional use of these devices shall not be determined by individual staff members. Exceptions must be submitted through the designated school site administrative process in advance and be properly documented.





UNIVERSAL STANDARDS AND RESTRICTIONS



AT ALL SCHOOL SITES

- Prohibited at every level:
 - Use of device in restrooms, locker rooms, or dressing areas.
 - Use of device that violates others' privacy (photos, videos, recordings).
 - Any unauthorized use on campus may result in confiscation and discipline.
- Communication Protocol
 - All students and parents will be directed to use school phones to communicate with home.
- Site Enforcement
 - Aligned with site-specific procedures.



LEGAL PROTECTIONS AND EXCEPTIONS



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- Devices must not be prohibited under the following:
 - Emergencies or perceived threats.
 - Physician's determination of necessity.
 - Required by IEP or 504 Plan.
 - Permission from school staff (within limits).
- The District is not responsible or liable for a student's mobile communication device(s) which is brought on campus or to a school activity and is lost, stolen, or damaged.

