SUBJECT: STUDENT USE OF INTERNET-ENABLED DEVICES

The Board of Education seeks to maintain a safe and secure environment for students and staff. This policy defines the use of all personal internet-enabled devices during the school day and on school grounds and establishes the standard that all use, regardless of its purpose, must also follow the guidelines outlined in the Student Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) (#7315), the School District's *Code of Conduct*, and the Dignity for All Students Act.

Definitions:

For purposes of this policy, personal internet-enabled devices consist of any non-Jerichoissued internet-enabled device that belongs in one of two Categories:

Category 1) Mobile Devices including cellular phones, smartwatches, smart glasses and tablets Category 2) Computer Devices including chrome books and laptops

"School day" is defined as the entirety of the instructional day, during all instructional and non-instructional time, including but not limited to homeroom periods, lunch, recess, study halls, and passing time.

Elementary School: 8:25 – 2:55 Middle School: 7:26 – 2:03 High School: 8:59 – 3:31

"School grounds" is defined as in or on or within any building, structure, athletic playing field, playground, or land contained within the real property boundary lines of the School District's schools.

Student Usage of Category 1 and Category 2 Devices on School Property:

The use of personal internet-enabled Category 1 devices and Category 2 devices as defined above by students during the school day anywhere on school grounds is prohibited by law, unless such use is included in a student's Individualized Educational Plan or 504 Plan. Students are required to turn off all personal internet-enabled Category 1 devices and store them upon arrival to school for the entire school day from the opening bell until dismissal in each school building as follows:

Elementary School: Personal Cubbies or Identified Phone Storage Areas

Middle School: Personal Lockers High School: Personal Lockers

For all students, the building administration has the discretion to allow students to use personal internet-enabled Category 1 and Category 2 devices during the school day on school grounds in the following limited instances:

- 1. where necessary for the management of a student's healthcare;
- 2. in the event of an emergency;
- 3. for translation services;
- 4. on a case-by-case basis, upon review and determination by a school psychologist, school social worker, or school counselor, for a student caregiver who is routinely responsible for the care and wellbeing of a family member; or
- 5. where required by law

Exception for High School Student Usage of Category 2 Devices on School Property:

For High School students, the building administration has the discretion to allow students to use personal internet-enabled Category 2 devices during the school day on school grounds if authorized by a teacher, principal, or the School District for a specific educational purpose or purposes.

Contacting Students During the School Day

Parents/persons in parental relation to students must be permitted to contact students during the school day by leaving a message with the Main Office of the building where the student attends school to request a call back from the student. Parents/persons in parental relation to students will receive written notification of the method(s) and phone number for contacting students upon enrollment and annually at the beginning of each school year.

Liability

The School District will not be liable for the loss, damage, misuse, or theft of any personal technology device brought to school. The School District reserves the right to monitor, inspect, and/or confiscate personal technology devices when administration has reasonable suspicion to believe that a violation of School District policy or criminal law has occurred.

The Board of Education expressly prohibits recording and/or videotaping in locker rooms, restrooms, Health Offices, and any other areas where a person would reasonably expect some degree of personal privacy.

Prohibition during State Assessments

All students are prohibited from bringing any electronic devices into a classroom or other location where a New York State assessment is being administered. Test proctors, test monitors, and school officials have the right to collect prohibited internet enabled devices prior to the start of the test and hold them while the test is being administered, including break periods. Admission to any assessment will be denied to any student who refuses to relinquish a prohibited device.

Students with disabilities may use certain devices if the device is specified in that student's IEP or 504 plan or a student has provided medical documentation that they require the device during testing.

Permission

Students are expected to act responsibly and thoughtfully when using technology resources. Students bear the burden of responsibility to inquire with school administrators and/or teachers when they are unsure of the permissibility of a particular use of technology prior to engaging in such use.

Students will not be permitted to use any technology devices in school or at school functions until they have reviewed this policy, the AUP, the applicable sections of the *Code of Conduct* and associated technology guidelines, and signed the Student Use of Personal Technology Permission Form with their parents. The School District reserves the right to further restrict student use of District-owned and personal internet-enabled devices on school property or at school sponsored events, at the discretion of the administration.

Students who fail to adhere to this policy will be subject to progressive discipline as outlined in the District's Code of Conduct, but the District may not impose suspension from school if the sole grounds for the suspension is that the student accessed an internet enabled device as prohibited by this Policy. The School District will develop regulations for the implementation of this policy that will include, but are not limited to, instructional time, non-instructional time, liability, bullying and cyberbullying, and privacy issues.

REF: Policy #7315 -- <u>Student Use of Computerized Information Resources (Acceptable Use Policy)</u>

Policy #7550 -- Dignity for All Students

Policy #8261 -- Internet Safety/Internet Content Filtering Policy

ADOPTED 7/18/25