

SUBJECT: STUDENT USE OF PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES

The Board of Education seeks to maintain a safe and secure environment for students and staff. This policy defines the use of personal electronic devices during instructional and non-instructional times and reinforces the standard that all use, regardless of its purpose, must follow the guidelines outlined in Student Use of Computerized Resources (the Policy 7314), hereinafter referred to as the Student Acceptable Use Policy (AUP), the District's *Code of Conduct and Support* and the Dignity for All Students Act.

A "personal electronic device" is any device that electronically communicates, sends, receives, stores, records, reproduces or displays voices and/or text communications or data. These include but are not limited to: cell phones, smartphones, smartwatches, beepers, video recorders, video game players, iPods, PP3 players, music and media players, cameras, tablets, laptops, personal computers and personal digital assistants (PDAs).

The Board acknowledges that personal electronic devices can be a positive means to facilitate communication; however, the display and/or use of such devices can cause disruption to the education process. Therefore, to prevent such disruption, the display and/or use by students of personal electronic devices shall be prohibited from the time students arrive at school until the end of the regular school day. Such devices must be turned off and stored out of sight during this time period and only used as follows:

- a) Grades PreK – 5. Personal electronic devices, including cell phones, smartphones, smartwatches, PDAs, and all other similar hand-held communication devices, brought to school shall be turned off, and left in student's book bag/backpacks; book bags/backpacks will be left in the classroom cubbie space during the school day. Personal electronic devices will be confiscated if seen or heard.
- b) Grades 6 – 12. Personal electronic devices, including cell phones, smartphones, smartwatches, PDAs, and all other similar hand-held communication devices, shall not be used by students and must be turned off while on school premises during the school day (from beginning bell to ending bell). These devices must be kept off and left in student's locker during the period of time between opening and closing school bells. Personal electronic devices will be confiscated if seen or heard.

Any violation of this policy or the misuse of any personal electronic devices will be referred to the District administration and violations may subject students to disciplinary action, as set forth in the *Code of Conduct and Support*.

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SUBJECT: STUDENT USE OF PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES (Cont'd.)

The use of a personal electronic device is permissible if written into a student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or 504 Plan. Personal electronic devices may be allowed with documentation from a licensed medical practitioner that such device is essential for the health and wellbeing of the student.

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

The District expressly prohibits use of personal electronic devices in locker rooms, restrooms, Health Offices, and any other areas where a person would reasonably expect some degree of personal privacy. Also, in accordance with state guidelines, students are not permitted to bring cell phones or other personal electronic devices into classrooms or other exam locations during all testing, unless specifically identified on an IEP, 504 Plan, or on documentation from a medical practitioner.

Students must follow the guidelines for use set out in the District's *Code of Conduct and Support* and the Student Use of Computerized Resources Policy at all times. Consequences for misuse will follow guidelines in the District's *Code of Conduct and Support*. The District may develop regulations for the implementation of this policy that may include, but are not limited to, instructional use, non-instructional use, liability, bullying and cyberbullying, and privacy issues.

To accommodate necessary communication, parents or persons in parental relation may use the following method to contact their student during school hours while adhering to this policy:

- a) School Office Phone: Parents or persons in parental relation may call the school's main office, and the office staff can relay messages to the student or call the student to the office to speak with their parent or person in parental relation.

The District will post this policy in a clearly visible and accessible location on its website. Translations of the policy will be provided upon request by a student or other persons in parental relation to a student.

Education Law Section 2803

NOTE: Refer also to Policies #7315 -- Student Acceptable Use Policy (AUP)
#7550 -- Dignity for All Students
#7552 -- Bullying in the Schools
#8271 -- Internet Safety/Internet Content Filtering
District *Code of Conduct and Support*

Adoption Date: 7/14/2025