
Q: Why is Dansville implementing a new cell phone policy?

A: This policy is **required by New York State law** starting in the 2025-2026 school year. Information on these requirements and our Board approved policy #5695 can be found here:



Q: What devices are covered by the policy?

A: The policy prohibits **student use of all internet-enabled and messaging devices** during the school day, including but not limited to:

- Smartphones
- Smartwatches
- Tablets, earbuds, pagers
- Any other personal device or phone with internet access or messaging capability

Note: School-issued Chromebooks used for educational purposes are **not** restricted.

Q: When and where does the policy apply?

A: Starting Fall 2025, the restriction applies:

- **Bell-to-bell** during the entire school day at DPS and EBH
 - DHS – 7:50 to the end of 8th period (2:26)
 - EBH – 7:40 to dismissal (2:23)
 - Including lunch, recess, study halls, and transitions between periods
 - **Everywhere on school grounds**
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Q: How will devices be stored during restricted hours?

A: Devices must be stored in **lockers or school-provided secure containers** upon arrival. Students **cannot carry devices** on their person or in backpacks.

- **DHS** – Students may use lockers but are prohibited from accessing or using phones at their locker throughout the school day. If this restriction is violated, students may be required to store their device in a locked container in the main office. Other progressive methods of enforcement can be found in the Code of Conduct.
 - **EBH & DPS** – Devices will be in supervised storage in classrooms or the main office if needed
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Q: Are there exceptions to the policy?

A: Yes. Students may use devices during the school day **only if**:

- Required for a **documented medical condition**
- Specified in an **IEP or 504 plan**
- Needed for **translation services** that cannot be met by district issued devices

All exceptions require **approval and appropriate documentation**. If you feel your child may qualify for an exception, please contact our **Office of Special Services at (585) 335-4000** or by emailing swiftj@dansvillecsd.org.

Q: How can I reach my child during the school day?

A: To leave a message for your child, you may contact the main office of your child's school. Spaces in each main office will be designated for students to use with consideration for student privacy.

- **Dansville High School:** (585) 335-4010
 - **Ellis B. Hyde Elementary:** (585) 335-4030
 - **Dansville Primary School:** (585) 335-4040
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Q: Can students use their phones on the bus or after school?

A: Yes. The policy applies only during the school day on school grounds. Students may use devices:

- Before entering the building and after dismissal (including on the bus)

- For after-school activities once the school day ends
 - For students who attend BOCES programs, they may bring their phone with them to BOCES and follow the policies and procedures of BOCES programs upon arrival.
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Q: What happens if a student violates the rules?

A: Dansville will follow a progressive discipline model as outlined in our Code of Conduct and Student Handbook. This is determined based on the number of offenses and may include:

- Verbal reminder and device confiscation, placed in locked storage in main office
 - Parent/Caregiver may be required to retrieve device at school
 - Detention or additional consequences per the Code of Conduct
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Q: What if my child forgets to turn in their device?

A: Administrators and staff will:

- Prompt students to follow the procedure
 - Offer a chance to turn it in promptly
 - Address repeated noncompliance through regular discipline pathways
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Q: Are teachers and staff held to the same standard?

A: This law only pertains to students. Staff are expected to model responsible device use, refraining from use during instructional periods, and support a distraction-free learning environment.

Q: Where can I read the full policy?

A: You can find the full **Policy 5695** on the Dansville CSD website or request a printed copy from your school office. It will also be published in the district calendar, student handbooks, and translated upon request. A link to the policy is also embedded in the policy picture on the first page of this document.

Thank you for your partnership and cooperation. We realize that this is a significant change for our children and families. We are working to proactively address social and emotional challenges that students may experience with the implementation of the new law. If you have specific concerns, we are here to listen and help. Please contact your child's principal or counselor.