

Woods Charter School

Personal Wireless Communication Device Policy

Adopted 9/18/2025

Purpose and Background. The School is committed to preparing students not only for academic achievement but also for responsible digital citizenship. The School seeks to empower students to stay focused, build healthy habits, and make safe, responsible choices with their wireless devices—skills that extend beyond the classroom.

In July 2025, the North Carolina General Assembly enacted **House Bill 959** ([S.L. 2025-38](#)), which, among other things, directs all public schools to implement procedures and guidelines limiting the use of wireless communication devices in public schools to minimize disruptions to the learning environment.

Based on HB 959 and the School’s desire to limit disruption, this policy is established to help students thrive in a safe, respectful, and focused school environment.

Definition. A Wireless Communication Device (“WCD” or “Wireless Devices”) includes, without limitation, cell phones, tablet computers, paging devices, two-way radios, gaming devices, headphones, earbuds, smartwatches, and any other device by which wireless communications may occur.

General Restriction (During School). Students must keep their Wireless Devices secured in their lockers or backpacks during the school day.

Exceptions. Exceptions to these restrictions include:

- (1) If authorized by a teacher for educational purposes or for use in the event of an emergency. The governing body may establish parameters to be followed by a teacher in granting authorizations.
- (2) As required by the student's individualized education program or section 504 (29 U.S.C. § 794) plan.
- (3) As required to manage a student's health care, in accordance with a documented medical condition.
- (4) High school students may use WCD during high school lunch.

Disciplinary Measures

In the event a student does not comply with this policy, the School will follow a supportive, step-based approach focused on accountability and reflection:

Offense	Action Taken	Consequence	Parent Notification
1st	Device to office	Warning issued	Not Required
2nd	Device to office	Phone Check-In for 2 weeks	Parents Notified
3rd	Device to office	After-School Detention Phone Check-In for 2 weeks	Parents Notified
4th	Device to office	In-School Suspension Phone Check-In for Trimester	Parents Notified

Administrative Discretion. The School administration shall have reasonable discretion to apply this policy based on the unique circumstances of each situation.