Code: **JFCEB**
Adopted: June 24, 2006
Reviewed: August 23, 2023

Personal Communication Devices

Student possession or use of personal communication devices on district property, in district facilities during the school day and while the student is in attendance at school-sponsored activities may be permitted subject to the limitations set forth in this policy and consistent with any additional school rules as may be established by the building principal and approved by the superintendent.

A "personal communication device" is a device that emits an audible signal, vibrates, displays a message or otherwise summons or delivers a communication to the possessor of the device. These devices include, but are not limited to, walkie talkies, either long- or short-range portable radios, portable scanning devices, cellular telephones and pagers, personal digital assistants (PDAs), laptop computers and similar devices with wireless capability.

At no time will any device be allowed which provides for a wireless, unfiltered connection to the Internet.

Cellular telephones and pagers shall be turned off during instructional or class time, during passing times between classes or at any other time where such use of the device would cause a disruption of school activities. Cellular telephones which have the capability to take "photographs" or "moving pictures" shall not be used for such purposes while on district property or while a student is engaged in school-sponsored activities, unless as expressly authorized in advance by the building principal or designee. Laptop computers and PDAs brought to school will be restricted to classroom or instructional-related activities only. The district will not be liable for personal communication devices brought to district property and school-sponsored activities.

Exceptions to the prohibitions set forth in this policy may be made for health, safety or emergency reasons with prior building principal or designee approval or when use is provided for in a student's individualized education program (IEP).

Students are subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion for using a personal communication device in any manner that is academically dishonest, illegal or violates the terms of this policy. A referral to law enforcement officials may also be made. Personal communication devices brought to district property or used in violation of this policy are subject to confiscation and will be released to the student's parent or property owner, as appropriate.

The superintendent shall ensure that the Board's policy and any subsequent school rules developed by building administrators are reviewed and approved in advance to ensure consistency with this policy and that pertinent provisions of policy and rules are communicated to students and parents through building handbooks and other means.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s): Copyrights, Title 17, as amended, United States Code; 19 CFR Part 133 (2001).