
Student Use of Cell Phones and Other Personal Technology Devices

The Board of Education (the “Board”) for Mapleton Public Schools (the “District”) believes personal technology devices may be useful tools for students in the educational environment and can play a vital communication role during emergency situations. However, the use of personal technology devices in schools must be regulated to ensure that the use of such devices does not disrupt or interfere with the educational process, school operations, or the individual learning, growth, and development of any student. Students may only use personal technology devices on District property, on a District vehicle, or at a District or school-sponsored activity or event in accordance with this policy in so far as possible.

For purposes of this policy, “personal technology devices” include any privately-owned portable technology device, including but not limited to cell phones, smart watches, earbuds, tablets, laptops, cameras, audio and/or video recorders and players, and all other hand-held electronic communication and data storage devices.

By September 15, 2026, each school must establish a set of rules and procedures regarding student use of personal technology devices during the school day which reflects a general commitment to keeping personal technology devices away for the day. In addition, each school's set of rules and procedures must:

1. Reference and support healthy habits regarding the use of personal technology devices.
2. Be created with input from representatives from all stakeholder groups.
3. Explain that all schools are equipped with landlines, 2-way radios, and other methods of communication, able to be used in an emergency, which do not include the use of personal technology devices.
4. Include provisions for educating staff, students, and parents about the rules and procedures, themselves, as well as about the reasons supporting the establishment of a particular set of rules.
5. Address all parts of the school day – including but not limited to instructional time, lunch, passing periods, and other non-scheduled time.
6. Explain sanctioned methods for phone storage, collection, and distribution, as necessary.
7. Address the developmental needs of the population served.

8. Describe how rules will be enforced and ensure that rule violations are addressed with restorative practices whenever possible.
9. Make clear that personal technology devices are permitted to be carried and used when such devices are necessary medical or assistive devices and may be permitted when students leave the school campus for a school approved reason.
10. Provide guidelines for when personal technology devices may be used as an educational tool.

It is the student's responsibility to know and comply with school rules, including ensuring that personal technology devices are turned off, placed in silent mode, and/or secured in designated locations during unauthorized times, as required.

Student use of personal technology devices with cameras and/or video recording capabilities is prohibited in locker rooms, bathrooms, or any other location where such use could violate another person's reasonable expectation of privacy.

Students shall not use personal technology devices to engage in, promote, or facilitate any other conduct that violates the student code of conduct, other District policies or regulations, or State or Federal law. Any student who chooses to bring a personal technology device to school, on District property, on a District vehicle, or at a District or school-sponsored activity or event must comply with District policy JS: Student Use of the Internet and Electronic Communications.

Violation of this policy or any other District, school, or classroom rule or regulation on student use of personal technology devices may result in disciplinary measures and/or temporary confiscation of the personal technology device. Confiscated devices will be returned to the student or student's parent/guardian at a time and in a manner determined by the school principal. If the school principal (or designee) believes a student's possession or use of a personal technology device may involve a violation of the law, the school principal (or designee) may refer the matter to law enforcement.

The District is not responsible for loss, theft, or destruction of personal technology devices brought onto school or District property or while the student is attending District or school-sponsored activities or events.

Adopted June 27, 2017, by the School Board for Mapleton Public Schools.

Revised February 18, 2025.

LEGAL REFERENCES:

C.R.S. § 18-7-109 (*posting, possession, or exchange of a private image by a juvenile*)

CROSS REFERENCES:

JIC: Student Conduct

JIH: Student Interviews, Interrogations, Searches, and Arrests

JK: Student Discipline

JS: Student Use of the Internet and Electronic Communications