

5340-R Student Cell Phone and Smart Devices

Definitions

For the purpose of this regulation, the following definitions will be used:

“Instructional Day” means the time from the official start of classroom instruction until the official dismissal of students at the end of the school day, which may be marked by the school’s first bell and last bell (“Bell to Bell”), including a structured or unstructured learning experience, recess, lunch period, and time between classes on school premises.

“Cell Phone, Smart Device or Personal Electronic Communication Device” means a personal portable electronic device capable of communication by voice, text, images or other data with one or more other parties or devices, capable of connection to a smartphone or other device, the internet, or a cellular or wireless fidelity network, including a smart phone, cell phone, Bluetooth-enabled device, earbuds, tablet, smartwatch or other wearable device, and gaming device.

Purpose

The purpose of this regulation is to establish clear expectations for the appropriate use of cell phones and smart devices by students in order to:

- Maintain an effective learning environment
- Minimize disruptions during instructional time
- Promote student responsibility
- Ensure compliance with state law and Board policy

Scope

This regulation applies to all students during the instructional day, including school-sponsored activities unless otherwise specified.

Smart Glasses are strictly prohibited.

Devices covered under this policy include, but are not limited to:

- Personal Cell phones
- Smart watches

- Any Non-District issued electronic device capable of transmitting or receiving communication

Exceptions may be granted only for documented medical or educational purposes and must be approved in advance by school administration. Please consult with the school nurse and/or school administration regarding the documentation required to request an exception.

Failure to comply with this expectation will result in disciplinary action consistent with District policy and school procedures.

The District is not responsible for loss, theft, or damage to personal electronic devices brought onto District property. Families concerned about loss or damage of student personal electronic devices should not send them to school with students.

General Expectations for Cell Phones and Smart Devices (K-12)

To support a focused and distraction-free learning environment, the district regulates student use of personal electronic devices as follows:

- **Grades K–6:** Cell phones, smartwatches, and other electronic communication devices are prohibited from the time of arrival until final dismissal.
- **Grades 7–12:** Cell phones, smartwatches, and other electronic communication devices are prohibited during the instructional day.

Students who bring such devices to school must ensure they are powered off and stored in backpacks or another school designated location at all times during instructional time.

Enforcement and Consequences

Violations of this policy will result in disciplinary action consistent with District procedures, which may include but not limited to:

- Verbal warning
- Confiscation of the device
- Parent/guardian notification
- Loss of device privileges
- Additional disciplinary measures as outlined in the Student Handbook

A student's refusal to comply with turning over a personal electronic communication device is considered non-compliance and will result in additional discipline.

Repeated violations will result in progressive discipline.

Administrative Authority

School administrators are authorized to:

- Establish building-level procedures consistent with this policy and regulation
- Temporarily restrict or expand device use based on instructional or safety needs
- Confiscate devices when policy violations occur

Communication with Parents:

Students may contact the student's parent or authorized caregiver during the school day if needed by using a school telephone made available to the student.

Public Communication:

- Policy 5340 and 5340-R will be published in student and personnel handbooks and posted on the District website
- Policy 5340 and 5340-R will be discussed with all students at the beginning of the school year to ensure all students are aware of the expectations and consequences.
- Policy 5340 and 5340-R will be referenced in school communication with parents and authorized caregivers at the beginning of each school year.

Outside Instructional Time:

- Access Not Allowed: All personal electronic communication devices will be securely stowed away and inaccessible to students during the following school-related activities.
 - Elementary Field Trips
 - Including the bus ride to and from field trips
- Access Allowed: All personal electronic communication devices will not be required to be securely stowed away and inaccessible to students during the following school-related activities.
 - Bus rides to and from home
 - Before the official start of instructional time, which may be marked by the school's first bell in Grades 7-12
 - After the official end of instructional time, which may be marked by the school's last bell in Grades 7-12
 - Field Trips for junior high and high school

- School sponsored extra-curricular events and activities
- School dances

ADOPTION DATE:

LEGAL REFERENCE(S): **W.S. 21-3-110(a)(xiv)**

CROSS REFERENCE(S): 5330, 5276, 5276-R, 7100, 7100-R Section 3

DRAFT