



Prepare | Explore | Empower

Cell Phones and Other Personal Electronic Devices

Purpose

To establish clear, developmentally appropriate guidelines for student use of cell phones and other personal electronic devices during school hours and school-sponsored activities, in compliance with C.R.S. 22-1-149. This policy balances student safety, access to learning technologies, and responsible device use while maintaining a focus on academic engagement and school culture.

Student use of personal electronic devices will be limited at school. The school will limit student use of such devices during the school day within differentiated and defined parameters that support student learning, student well-being, and safety at each developmental level.

Definitions

- **Personal Electronic Device:** Includes, but is not limited to, cell phones, tablets, smartwatches, headphones, and portable gaming devices.
- **Instructional Time:** The period during which classroom instruction is taking place, as defined by the school schedule.

Expectations By Developmental Level

Elementary (Grades K-5)- For students in grades K-5, personal electronic devices must be in the “off” or “silent” position and stored out of sight at all times during the school day and when students are under the supervision of school personnel.

Secondary (Grades 6-12)- For students in grades 6-12, personal electronic devices must be in the “off” or “silent” position and stored out of sight at all times when students are in academic settings under the supervision of school personnel.

General Provisions

1. Allowable Use

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- During instructional time only with explicit permission from the classroom teacher or as required by an Individualized Education Program (IEP), 504 Plan, or other documented accommodation.
- In certain non-academic settings as determined by the student and family handbook at that grade level.

2. Restricted Use

- To engage in academic dishonesty, bullying, harassment, or other misconduct.
- To record, photograph, or livestream without permission from staff and all individuals being recorded.
- In areas where privacy is expected (e.g., restrooms, locker rooms).

3. Staff Discretion

Teachers and staff in collaboration with administration may set additional expectations for their classrooms/academic settings, provided they are:

- Clearly communicated to students and families
- Developmentally appropriate
- Not in conflict with this policy or student rights under C.R.S. 22-1-149

4. Equity Considerations

The school will not discipline or penalize students for lack of access to personal electronic devices. No instructional activity will require students to use a personal device unless school-provided alternatives are made available.

5. Emergency Use

In an emergency, students may use personal electronic devices to contact parents or guardians if it is safe and appropriate to do so. School personnel may also direct students to use devices for communication.

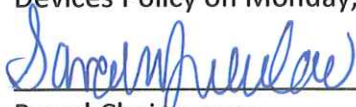
6. Policy Violations

Inappropriate use of personal electronic devices may result in:

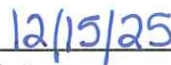
- Verbal warnings
- Confiscation of the device for the remainder of the day
- Parent notification or conference
- Repeated violations may result in temporary or progressive restrictions and consequences

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The Board of Directors at The Academy approved the Cell Phones and Other Personal Electronic Devices Policy on Monday, December 15, 2025.



Board Chairperson



Date

LEGAL REFS.:

C.R.S. § 22-1-149 (Electronic devices in school settings – policy required)

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