



Policy Number 237
Title Electronic Devices
Adopted 8/3/2026
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Electronic Devices

Purpose

The possession and Use of Electronic Devices, including Personal Electronic Devices, by District students when in compliance with this Policy, other District policies, regulations, rules, and procedures, ISP terms, and local, state, and federal laws, and supportive of the educational program of the District, is permitted.

However, the possession and use of Electronic Devices, including Personal Electronic Devices, by students that are found to be disruptive to the educational process and/or environment can be abusive in ways that negatively affect students, employees, and the District's mission and environment, and is prohibited in accordance with this Policy, other District policies, regulations, rules and procedures, ISP terms, and local, state, and federal laws.

Authority

The Board reserves the right to define and delineate the specific conditions under which student use of electronic devices may be used in the school setting.

The Board authorizes the Superintendent or designee(s), to define the educational value and permit or place restrictions on the possession or use of any electronic devices.

Definition

Electronic Devices - are devices with voice, data, text, and/or navigation capabilities that are able to access the Internet, transmit telephone calls, text messages, email messages, instant messages, video communications (such as iChat and Skype), perform word processing and other computer and online applications (apps), and provide location information. The devices are capable of electronically communicating, sending, receiving, storing, recording, reproducing, and/or displaying information and data.

Examples of Electronic Devices include but are not limited to smartphones and smart devices (iPhone, Droid, Blackberry, smart watches, smart glasses, etc.), cellular phones, mobile phones (with recording and/or camera/video and other capabilities and configurations); traditional telephones; pagers; global positional system (GPS) instruments; computers; portable game units; graphic calculators; MP3, music, and media players; PDAs; digital cameras; tablet and laptop computers; walkie talkies; two-way radios; and other similar devices, regardless of its configuration or future technological advancements. Electronic Devices may also be referred to as electronic communication devices in other publications and district policies. Electronic Devices could be devices that are not capable of transmitting telephone communications (such as iPads, radios), do not have Internet access (such as district issued and student-owned Kindles), are lasers, and/or are radar communication devices.

Guidelines

Student Cell Phone and Personal Electronic Device Expectations

To support student learning, academic focus, school safety, and positive school culture, students shall not use or access personal cell phones or personal electronic devices during the school day from the first bell/start of the instructional day until dismissal at the end of the school day.

Personal electronic devices must remain:

- Powered off or silenced
- Stored out of sight
- Secured in lockers, backpacks, designated classroom storage areas, or approved district storage systems during the school day

This prohibition includes:

- Classrooms
- Hallways
- Restrooms
- Cafeterias
- Study halls
- School assemblies
- Transition periods between classes
- Any other instructional or supervised school setting

Students may use personal electronic devices only:

1. Before the official start of the school day
2. After dismissal
3. When required by an approved IEP, Section 504 Plan, or medical plan

The District shall have the right to restrict Electronic Devices during school evacuations as necessary, for the safety and security of all individuals.

If Personal Electronic Devices are loaned to or borrowed and/or misused by non-owners, the owners of the Personal Electronic Devices are jointly responsible with the non-owner for the misuse and/or violation of district policy, regulations, rules, or procedures.

The Board prohibits all other photography, audio recording, and/or video recording, via electronic devices by students during the instructional day in District buildings, on District property, and when engaged in a school-sponsored activity.

The Board prohibits students from taking, storing, disseminating, transferring, viewing, possessing or sharing obscene, pornographic, lewd, or otherwise illegal images or photographs, whether by electronic data transfer or other means, including, but not limited to, texting and emailing. Because such violations may constitute a crime under local, state and/or federal law, the District shall report such conduct to local, state and/or federal law enforcement agencies. Administrators shall confiscate devices implicated in this electronic data transfer and immediately contact law enforcement when possession or distribution of such images is discovered or reasonably suspected. Audio and video taping shall be consistent with applicable state and federal laws. Recording anyone without their knowledge and permission is prohibited and may be punishable under state and federal laws.

In addition, the Board prohibits students from accessing a wireless, unfiltered connection to the Internet on a personal electronic device at any time while on school property or while engaged in school-related activities. The District will provide filtered Internet for student use.

Connection to the Internet while present on school property or a school-related activity via anything other than the District's network is a violation of this policy and the Acceptable Use Policy.

In accordance with this Policy, Electronic Devices, including Personal Electronic Devices, may not be used in unauthorized areas or as determined by the school administration as follows:

The Board strictly prohibits possession by students on school grounds, at School District-sponsored activities, and on buses or other vehicles provided by the School District any non-School District-owned laser pointers, or laser pointer attachments, and any Electronic Devices, including Personal Electronic Devices that are hazardous or harmful to students, employees and the School District. These include, but are not limited to, devices that control/interfere with the operation of the buildings' systems, facilities and infrastructure, or digital network. No exception or permission may be authorized by the Principal, or designee, or anyone, for students to possess or use such devices.

During tests, examinations, and/or assessments, unless the teacher authorizes such use. When Electronic Devices, including Personal Electronic Devices, are not permitted to be used during tests, examinations, and/or assessments they must be stored in closed items such as pocketbooks and book bags, and may not be visible or turned on.

To cheat, engage in unethical conduct, and threaten academic integrity.

To access and/or view Internet websites that are blocked by the School District. Examples include, but are not limited to, social media sites, and "inappropriate matter" as defined in the School District's Acceptable Use Policy and Social Media Policy.

To invade the privacy rights of any student or employee, violate the rights of any student or staff member, or harass, threaten, intimidate, bully or cyberbully any student, employee, or guest, or promote or engage in violence. Actions include, but are not limited to, taking an individual's photo without consent, recording an individual's voice or image without consent, or storing/accessing personal and/or academic information/data without consent.

- In locker rooms, bathrooms, health suites, dressing rooms, swimming pool areas, and any other changing areas.
- To create, send, share, view, or disseminate sexually explicit, obscene, pornographic, child pornographic, lewd images or video content, as such acts may be a crime under state and/or federal law.
- To disrupt the educational and learning environment.

Electronic Devices, including Personal Electronic Devices

The District shall not be liable for the loss, damage or misuse of any electronic device brought to school; possessed or used during the school day; in or on District buildings, District property, District vehicles or contracted vehicles; during transport to and from school; while attending school-sponsored activities during the school day; and/or any and all school-sponsored activities generally. The District is under no obligation to provide technical support, troubleshooting, or repair for personal electronic devices or maintain any liability for any electronic device.

Exceptions

Exceptions to the prohibitions set forth in this policy may be made for health, safety or emergency reasons or when use is required for the provision of a free appropriate public education for a student identified under Section 504 or the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and present in a student's Individualized Education Program (IEP), Section 504 plan, or Medical Plan.

Disciplinary Action

Violations of this policy by a student will result in disciplinary action (including the range of penalties provided for in the Code of Student Conduct such as loss of privileges, confiscation, and referral for expulsion) in accordance with Board policy and the student handbook. Use of

electronic devices for an unlawful purpose will subject a student to any and all disciplinary measures provided by the Code of Student Conduct, Board policy, or applicable state and federal law.

Use of electronic devices pursuant to this policy is a privilege, not a right, unless otherwise required by legal exception as stated in this policy. Abuse of the limited use provision will result in the discontinuation of electronic devices privileges as determined by the administration.

Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent or designee shall annually notify students, parents/guardians, and staff about the District's electronic devices policy by publishing such policy in the student handbook and on the District website.

Adopted: **January 23, 2017**

Legal References:

- 1. 24 P.S. 510
- 2. 24 P.S. 1317.1
- 3. Pol. 218
- 4. Pol. 122
- 5. Pol. 123
- 6. Pol. 226
- 7. Pol. 233
- 8. Pol. 113
- Pol. 000
- Pol. 815