BLACK RIVER PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD POLICY
STUDENT WIRELESS COMMUNICATION DEVICES

In accordance with Public Act 2 of 2026 the Black River Public School prohibits the use of student owned/possessed wireless communication devices on school grounds during all designated time on campus, with exceptions.

Wireless communication devices include any electronic device capable of text messaging, voice communication, entertainment, navigation, internet browsing, sending/receiving media, or producing/receiving email. This includes smartphones, smartwatches, personal tablets and connected wearable technology. This also includes wireless communication devices such as a basic phone used for voice calling that cannot support third-party applications, except preinstalled, and does not support access to internet platforms via applications to web browsing. Chromebooks and laptops are allowed.

Use Restriction by Learning Level

Elementary and Middle School Levels – Devices must be powered off and securely stored in lockers or backpacks upon entering the building in the morning, until dismissal from the final class, exiting the building. Usage during lunch and during passing times is prohibited.

High School Level – Devices must be powered off and securely stored in lockers or backpacks upon entering the building in the morning, until dismissal from the final class, exiting the building. High school students are permitted to use their personal devices only during their scheduled lunch, in the Lyceum or outside. Using devices during lunch in instructional space such as classrooms or the basement is prohibited.

Exceptions to Use Restrictions

Per State law, a student shall not be disciplined or restricted from possessing a wireless communications device if the device meets any of the following:

1. **Medical Necessity** – The device is required for a documented medical purpose (e.g. if the device is paired to a glucose monitor)

2. **IEP or Section 504 Accommodations** – The device is explicitly required for special education programming or accommodations outlined within a student's legally active IEP or Section 504 plan.

3. **District Owned or Designated Devices** – The device is owned by the District or has been temporarily authorized by a certified classroom educator for a specific, lesson-contained instructional objective.
4. **Emergency Situations** – Device use is legally permitted during active emergency situations per the discretion of law enforcement or school administration. Student device usage during a crisis must strictly adhere to the communication and reunification protocols established in the District's Emergency Operations Plan to avoid interference with first responders.

Policy Enforcement

Violations of this policy may result in progressive disciplinary action.

First Offense: Device confiscation to the office until the conclusion of the school day.

Second Offense: Device confiscation to the office until the conclusion of the school day, notification to designated parent or legal guardian.

Third Offense: Device confiscation to office requiring physical pickup by a designated parent or legal guardian.

Fourth Offense: Mandatory parent-administrator behavioral review and potential disciplinary action.

Fifth Offense: Additional disciplinary action up to and including long-term suspension and/or expulsion.

Refusal to surrender a device upon staff request will be considered insubordination and will result in immediate administrative intervention.

Violations will reset at the beginning of each semester, and default to the Third Offense if currently beyond that threshold.

This Policy is adopted in conformance with Michigan Public Act 2 of 2026 (MCL 380.1303a) and shall be posted on the Academy website.

Approved: August 24, 2026