Annual Distraction-Free Schools Policy Enforcement Report

Reporting Year: 2025-2026
District/BOCES: Cheektowaga-Sloan UFSD
Date Published: 08/24/2026

1. Policy Overview

Provide a brief description of the distraction-free schools policy, including grades covered, devices covered, enforcement expectations, and any notable implementation details.

Electronic Communication Devices - Students are not permitted to use any form of information technology, including their own personal electronic devices, to intimidate, harass or threaten others. This type of harassment is generally referred to as Cyberbullying. If a student violates this prohibition, then he/she is subject to discipline under this provision and/or any other provision in the District Code of Conduct that may be applicable to the circumstances involved.

Misusing computer/electronic communications devices is also prohibited, including any unauthorized or inappropriate use of computers, software, or Internet/intranet account; accessing inappropriate websites; evading the District's content filter; using an outside wireless network; or any other violation of the District Acceptable Use Policy.

Grades K-5: Electronic communication devices shall not be utilized by students, whether in the school building or on the school grounds, while participating in a school-related activity, or away from the school grounds while participating in a school-related activity, unless expressly approved by the building principal. This policy does not apply to the use of electronic devices and equipment such as computers and other devices that are supplied by the district.

Any student who uses an unauthorized electronic communication device during official school hours will be subject to disciplinary action, and the electronic device may be confiscated. The use of devices that can record and/or transmit images are strictly prohibited due to possible violations of student and staff privacy.

* Should a student engage in insubordination or violate any of the prohibited behaviors outlined in the "Code of Student Discipline" (refer to page 5), disciplinary measures will be imposed in accordance with the prescribed guidelines.

Grades 6-8: New York State's distraction-free school zone law prohibits the unsanctioned use of smartphones and other internet-enabled personal devices on school grounds for K-12 during the entire school day, including classroom time and other settings such as lunch, passing time, and study halls. Students are expected to store any internet-enabled devices in their lockers for the duration of the instructional day. The instructional day for JFK Middle School is 8:00 a.m. through 3:15 p.m.. This policy does not apply to the use of electronic devices and equipment such as computers and other devices that are supplied by the district.

Students are prohibited from using a cell phone or internet-enabled devices in any manner that invades a person's privacy (e.g., all electronic devices and cell phones are strictly prohibited in locker rooms and bathrooms at any time), disrupts the educational environment, or endangers the safety of other students, employees, volunteers, or visitors. If a student violates this provision, then he/she is subject to discipline under this and/or any other section of this Code of Conduct that may be applicable to the circumstances involved. Other Devices: Students should not bring electronic devices to school that are not specifically intended for instructional purposes. This includes, but is not limited to, laptops, cameras, MP3 players, laser pointers, or any recording equipment. The use of these devices must be approved by appropriate school personnel.

The following procedures will be followed if a staff member observes a student violating the internet-enabled device policy during the instructional school day:

First violation: The teacher will confiscate the cell phone or internet-enabled device. It will be taken to the office, where the student can pick it up at the end of the day.

Second violation: The teacher will confiscate the cell phone or internet-enabled device. It will be taken to the office, where the student can pick it up at the end of the day. The student receives a discipline referral and school-level consequences, as determined by the principal. Parents will be notified.

Third violation: The teacher will confiscate the cell phone or internet-enabled device. It will be brought to the office where a parent or guardian needs to pick it up at the end of the day.

Fourth violation: The student will be required to turn the cell phone or internet-enabled device into the office daily, for a period of time determined by the principal.

2. Enforcement Summary

Measure	Number
Total Student Enrollment	1273
Students Receiving at Least One Violation	97
Total Violations Recorded	210
Verbal Warnings	58
Device Confiscations	129
Parent Notifications	59
Detentions	8
Other Disciplinary Actions	12

3. Demographic Analysis

Provide non-identifiable demographic information regarding students who faced disciplinary action for noncompliance with the policy.

Demographic Group	Enrollment %	Students Disciplined %	Difference
Female	48.86%	35.71%	-13.15%
Male	51.14%	64.29%	+13.15%
Students with Disabilities	17.05%	19.05%	+2.00%
Economically Disadvantaged	53.39%	53.81%	+0.58%
English Language Learners	4.95%	0.00%	-4.95%
White	60.09%	55.72%	-4.37%
Black/African American	13.04%	21.43%	+8.40%
Hispanic/Latino	7.70%	4.76%	-2.94%
Asian	16.73%	10.00%	-6.73%
Multiracial	9.35%	7.61%	-1.74%
Other	0.79%	0.48%	0.31%

4. Findings and Interpretation

Describe trends observed in the data, identify any disparities, discuss possible contributing factors, and explain how the district/BOCES will continue monitoring enforcement practices.

Most infractions occurred at the secondary level. Each year, our team will continue to monitor and review our practices related to this initiative. We identified no statistically significant disparate impact.

5. Statistical Significance Determination

Was a statistically significant disparate impact identified?

☐ Yes X No

6. Mitigation Action Plan (Complete Only if Required)

Area of Concern	Root Cause Analysis	Action Steps	Timeline	Responsible Party

Board/Administrative Certification

I certify that this report has been reviewed and published in accordance with the requirements of New York State Education Law regarding distraction-free schools policy enforcement reporting.

Administrator Name/Title: Brian Zybala, Director of Data and Technology

Signature: 

Date: 08/25/2026