<u>STUDENTS</u> 5131.81

STUDENT ELECTRONIC DEVICES

The Board of Education (Board) is committed to providing a learning environment that is safe, positive, and productive for all students. The Board acknowledges the challenge in today's digital world of preparing young people to use modern technology in a safe and responsible manner and recognizes the importance of creating age-appropriate guidelines that are responsive to students' different levels of academic, emotional, and social development.

For purposes of this policy, the term "cell phone" refers to any portable phone or communication device that may or may not also have computing capability. The term smartwatch refers to any mobile computing device with a touchscreen display that may or may not connect to a smartphone, designed to be worn on the wrist.

Elementary School: No use of a cell phone/smartwatch or other personal communication device will be permitted during school hours. These devices must be turned off and left in backpacks, stored in a student's locker/cubbie, or other place designated by building administration.

Middle School: No use of a cell phone/smartwatch or other personal communication device will be permitted during school hours. These devices must be turned off or on silent and left in backpacks, stored in a student's locker or other place designated by building administration.

High School: Possession of a cell phone/smartwatch or other personal communication device while in school is permitted; however, the devices must be turned off or on silent and be out of sight in classrooms during the school day. Cell phones may be used in non-classroom areas as designated by the school administration.

Any student who chooses to bring a cellular telephone/electronic communication device to school shall do so at their own risk and shall be personally responsible for the security of their device. Neither the school personnel nor the Board will assume any responsibility or liability for loss, theft, damage, or vandalism to such devices if brought onto school property, or for the unauthorized use of any such device.

The Board directs the Superintendent to develop regulations for the use of cell phones or personal communication devices at the high school level aimed at promoting an optimal learning environment. Violation of district regulations on the use of cell phones/personal communication devices will result in discipline. School administrators may confiscate cell phones at any time for failure to follow administrative regulations.

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 20 Goshen - Litchfield - Morris - Warren Policy Adopted: September 25, 2025

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