

ELECTRONIC PAGING AND COMMUNICATIONS DEVICE POLICY

This policy is intended to apply to students when they are at school, participating in any school-sponsored activity, and at all other times when the student is subject to the authority and supervision of District officials. At such times and under the conditions established in this policy, students may possess a personal communication device (PCD) such as a cellular telephone or other personal electronic device with communications functions or with recording, photographic, or video-imaging capabilities. Students may use such devices only with school permission that has been granted pursuant to this policy.

Building principals are authorized to establish school rules and acceptable use guidelines for students' limited and non-disruptive use of electronic devices for educational, safety, medical, vocational, or other legitimate reasons.

The rules shall permit students at all grade levels to use a personal communication device as needed (e.g., to contact a responsible adult) in any emergency situation that involves an immediate threat to the health, safety, or property of any person. However, when carrying out school emergency response plans an administrator or other staff member may direct students to turn off their personal communication devices so that emergency communication networks are not overwhelmed and so that emergency response efforts are not jeopardized.

Possession and use of a personal communication device by a student under this policy is a privilege. A student who chooses to exercise this privilege does so subject to the following conditions:

- The District is not responsible for the safety or security of personal communication device that students possess or use at school or at a school-related activity. Students who possess or use such device(s) do so at their own risk with regard to possible theft, damage, misappropriation of data/equipment, or other loss.
- If the District determines that a student has possessed or used such a device in violation of the law, this policy, or a school rule or directive, the student is subject to appropriate school-imposed consequences, such as the possible loss of privileges, suspension, and/or expulsion. The District may also refer certain matters to law enforcement.
- If a District official has reason to suspect or determines that a student has possessed or used a personal communication device in violation of the law, this policy, or a school rule or directive, a District official may temporarily confiscate the device and/or turn the device over to law enforcement.

Students in the various schools have different needs, levels of understanding, and maturity levels. Accordingly, rules regarding student possession and use of personal communication devices and other personal electronic devices may differentiate among students by grade level or on another reasonable basis.

- Grades EC-5 are not permitted to use their personal communication device during the school day from 8:00 AM – 3:21 PM.

- Grades 6-12 before/after school and at lunch, personal communication devices are suggested to remain in their locker and secured all other times of the day.
- Grades 9-12 may also access their device during passing times. It is highly recommended that students keep their devices in their locker and secured during class time.

Students who violate this policy shall have their personal communication devices confiscated and shall be subject to disciplinary action. Parents/guardians shall be notified and the consequence structure is outlined in the handbook.

Students shall not use personal communication devices:

- To engage in bullying or harassment.
- To communicate test answers, photograph tests, or engage in any other conduct that constitutes or facilitates academic dishonesty.
- To take, disseminate, transfer, or share any images, recordings, or other content that is obscene, lewd, illegal, sexually-explicit, or otherwise inappropriate for the school setting.
- In areas where other people have a reasonable expectation of privacy, including all locker rooms, bathrooms, or other changing areas (except in an emergency).
 - *The use of cellular telephones to take photographs or to receive or transport video images is prohibited at all times in locker rooms, restrooms and other similar private areas.*
- To create, communicate, share, or post recordings or images of any other student or staff member without permission from that student or staff member (except in an emergency).

An exemption to this policy may be allowed for the use or possession of such a device if the Board of Education designee (Building Principal or District Administrator) determines that the device is to be used for or is possessed for a medical, school, educational, vocational, or other legitimate use and permission is granted by the designee in writing.

The Board of Education shall provide each pupil with a copy of this policy annually and shall submit a copy of the regulation to the State School Superintendent, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, when the policy is first adopted and upon any future amendments or revisions.

Initial Adoption	05/10/1990
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