

Fentress County Board of Education

	Use of Wireless Communication Devices	Descriptor Code:	Issued Date:
		6.312	09-02-25
		6.312 6.3121 6.3122	04-08-24 10-02-23 10-02-23

General¹

Students are permitted to use wireless communication devices in certain limited situations. Wireless communication devices include any portable wireless device that has the capability to provide voice, messaging, or other data communication between two (2) or more parties, such as but not limited to wearable technology, cell phones, tablets, laptops, gaming devices, watches, rings, eyeglasses that have the capability to record, live stream, or interact with wireless technology.

A student may be permitted to utilize a wireless communication device under the following circumstances:

1. In case of emergency;
2. When authorized by a teacher;
3. To manage the student's health, as documented in the student's individual healthcare plan;
4. When the possession or use is required by the student's individual education program, 504 plan, or individual learning plan; or
5. When the device is being used by a student with a disability for the operation of assistive technology to increase, maintain, or improve the student's functional capabilities.

GRADES Prek-8

Wireless communication devices are permitted on school premises, provided they are powered off and submitted daily for the entire duration of the school day unless one of the exceptions above applies.

Violations:

- 1st Offense – warning, confiscate wireless communication device, 1 day of lunch detention or after school detention, parent notification, give back phone at the end of the day, send a copy of cell phone policy to parent
- 2nd Offense - confiscate for the day, parent pick up at the end of the day, 2 days lunch detention or after school detention
- 3rd Offense - confiscate until parent meeting, 3 days lunch detention or after school detention or 1-day ISS, mandatory meeting with parent to review cell phone policy and pick up cell phone
- 4th Offense - confiscate phone for three days and three days of Alternative School; parent must pick up the phone.

- 5th Offense - confiscate phone for 3 days and 5 days Alternative School; parent must pick up the phone

Filming, recording or distributing any violations of school rules with technology

- 1st offense = 5 days of Alternative School and court referral.
- 2nd offense = 10 days of Alternative School and court referral.
- 3rd offense = Long-term Alternative School placement and court referral.

GRADES 9-12

Students may possess wireless communication devices so long as such devices are turned off and stored during instructional time. During breaks throughout the school day, students may use wireless communication devices.

Consequences:

- 1st offense = warning, phone will be confiscated for the remainder of the day and may be picked up when the student is ready to leave school. A copy of the cell phone policy is given to the student.
- 2nd offense = warning, phone will be confiscated for the remainder of the day and must be picked up by parent/guardian.
- 3rd offense = warning, phone will be confiscated for the remainder of the day and must be picked up by a parent/guardian and may result in 1-day ISS/detention.
- 4th offense = 5 days of alternative school

Filming, recording or distributing any violations of school rules with technology

- 1st offense = 5 days of Alternative School and court referral.
- 2nd offense = 10 days of Alternative School and court referral.
- 3rd offense = Long-term Alternative School placement and court referral.

PENALTIES

Unauthorized use or improper storage of a device will result in confiscation until such time as it may be released to the student's parent(s)/guardian(s). A student in violation of this policy is subject to disciplinary action.

District, its schools nor its employees assume any responsibility or liability for theft, loss or damage to student's wireless devices.

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION PLAN

In the event of an emergency or possible emergency occurring at school, parent(s)/guardian(s) shall be alerted by district all call system.¹

Legal References

Public Acts of 2025, Chapter No. 103

Cross References

Code of Conduct 6.300