

Section: Pupils
Title: Electronic Devices
Adopted:
Revised:

237. Electronic Devices

The board prohibits use of cellular telephones and any devices that have the capability to take photographs or record audio or video or text messaging during the school day in district buildings, on district property, and while students are engaged in school-sponsored activities during the day. Students may transport cellular phones to and from school provided that they adhere to the following requirements:

1. The cellular phone must be turned off upon entering any school building and remain off until the student leaves the school building.
2. No voice/text messaging may be sent or received during class time.
3. The cellular phone must be properly stored during school hours within the student's assigned locker or other area designated by the school administration.
4. The cellular phone must remain off during a school evaluation.

In addition, the Board prohibited possession and use by students of any device that provides for a wireless, unfiltered connection to the Internet.

The district shall not be liable for the loss, damage or misuse of any electronic device brought to school by a student.

The Superintendent or designee shall annually notify students, parents/guardians, and staff about the district's electronic device policy by publishing such policy in the student handbook, newsletters, posted notices, and other efficient methods.

Exceptions to the prohibitions set forth in this policy may be made for health, safety or emergency reasons with prior approval of the building principal or designee, or when use is provided for in a student's individual education program (IEP).

Violations of this policy by a student shall result in disciplinary action and may result in confiscation of the electronic device. If the device is not suspected of being stolen, it shall be returned to the student or parent/guardian. If the device is suspected of being stolen, it shall be turned over to the police.

Telephone Pagers/Beepers

With prior administrative approval, the telephone paging device/beepers prohibitions shall not apply in the following cases.

1. A student who is a member of a volunteer fire company, ambulance, or rescue squad.
2. A student who has a need for such a device due to the medical conditions of an immediate family member.
3. Other reasons determined appropriate by the building principal.

Laptop Computers/Personal Digital Assistants

Laptop computers and personal digital assistants (PDAs) brought to school shall be restricted to classroom or instructional-related activities. Students shall comply with the guidelines set by the classroom teacher or school officials for the educational use of laptop computers and PDAs. This restriction shall not apply in the case of a student with a device prescribed in an IEP to a Section 504 service plan.

References:

Pennsylvania Wiretapping and Electronic Surveillance Act –
18 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 5703

School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 510, 1317.1

Board Policy – 113, 218, 233, 815