

STUDENTS AND TELECOMMUNICATION DEVICES

All students are strongly encouraged not to possess any telecommunication or other electronic device that may interfere with the creation and existence of a positive learning atmosphere while on school district property. The District, however, recognizes that many parents and students view these devices as valuable safety and communication aids. To reconcile the District's desire to foster a positive learning environment with parental and student concerns for safety and communication, the District has implemented the following policy.

While on school property or while attending school sponsored or school-related activities, students may possess and use personal telecommunication/electronic devices only in accordance with this policy.

These telecommunication/electronic devices include, but are not limited to, computers, pagers, smart watches, MP3 players and cellular/wireless phones, tablets, or any photographic and/or video devices. These devices may not be used in a manner that threatens academic integrity, disrupts the learning environment, violates the privacy rights of others, or harasses other students or staff. Any device used in such a manner or in violation of the conditions identified below may be confiscated.

Students in possession of telecommunication/electronic devices will observe the following conditions:

- A. Telecommunication/electronic devices can be turned on and operated only before and after the regular school day and during the student's lunch break, unless an emergency situation exists that involves imminent physical danger or a school administrator authorizes the student to use the device;
- B. Telecommunication/electronic devices will not be used to harass other students or staff, to bully other students, or to disrupt the educational process, including, but not limited to, posing a threat to academic integrity or violating confidentiality or privacy rights of another individual;
- C. Students will not use telecommunication/electronic devices of any kind in restrooms, locker rooms, or in any other location where individuals have an expectation of privacy at any time before, during, or after school on school premises or at any school-related activities.
- D. Students must have prior permission from an administrator or designee before recording photographs, video or audio during the school day, including during the student's lunch break.
- E. Students must have prior permission from an administrator or designee before recording photographs, video or audio on a school bus.

- F. Students will not send, share, view, or possess pictures, text messages, emails, or other material depicting sexually explicit conduct, as defined in [RCW 9.68A.011](#), in electronic or any other form on a telecommunication/electronic device, during school hours or school activities on or off campus; while on school district property, during any recess, lunch or leave periods on or off school district property; or beyond the hours of school operation if the behavior detrimentally affects the personal safety or well-being of school-related individuals, the governance, climate or efficient operation of the school; or the educational process or experience of staff and students. Any student who receives a sexually explicit message must immediately inform school administration of the message and only delete the message when instructed to do so by a school administrator or law enforcement officer;
- G. When a school official has reasonable suspicion, based on objective and articulable facts, that a student is using a telecommunication/electronic device in a manner that violates the law or school rules, the official may confiscate the device, which will only be returned to the student's parent or legal guardian;
- H. By bringing a telecommunication/electronic device to school or school-sponsored events, the student and their parent/guardian consent to the search of the device when school officials have a reasonable suspicion, based on objective and articulable facts, that such a search will reveal a violation of the law or school rules. The scope of the search will be limited to the violation of which the student is accused. Content or images that violate state or federal laws will be referred to law enforcement;
- I. Students are responsible for telecommunication/electronic devices they bring to school. The district will not be responsible for loss, theft or destruction of devices brought onto school property or to school-sponsored events;
- J. Students will comply with any additional rules developed by the school concerning the appropriate use of telecommunication/electronic devices; and
- K. Students who violate this policy will be subject to disciplinary action consistent with Policy 3241. Violations of this policy that constitute exceptional misconduct, such as use that harasses other students or staff or violates the privacy rights of others, may result in immediate suspension or expulsion.

