

## **Student Use of Electronic Communication Devices**

The Board of Education recognizes that electronic communication devices can play a vital communication role during emergency situations. However, ordinary use of electronic communication devices in school situations disrupts and interferes with the educational process and is not acceptable. For purposes of this policy, "electronic communication devices" include cell phones, beepers, pagers, walkie-talkies, and any other telecommunications device that emits an audible signal, vibrates, displays a message, or otherwise summons or delivers a communication to the possessor (e.g., Blackberry, Palm Pilot, etc.).

Electronic devices shall not be used as a means to harass, intimidate, or bully. Students who violate this policy during school contact hours, extracurricular activities, or off campus school functions will be disciplined according to the consequences outlined in the student handbook and the school principal will contact law enforcement and report the findings.

Students may carry electronic communication devices but these devices must be turned off during unauthorized times which are defined as during school hours when students are inside school buildings, on school buses, at school-sponsored activities and on field trips. In these locations, electronic communication devices may be used only during emergencies or under the strict direction of the teacher, sponsor, or supervisor. For purposes of this policy, "emergency" shall mean an actual or imminent threat to public health or safety, which may result in loss of life, injury or property damage.

Electronic communication devices with cameras are prohibited in locker rooms, bathrooms, or other locations where such operation may violate the privacy rights of another person. For the purpose of this policy using a phone camera to video tape or disperse to others an act which violates a school policy outlined in the student handbook is deemed as a violation of this policy. Discipline outlined in the student handbook for such a violation will be enacted by the building principal and may be referred to law enforcement.

It is the student's responsibility to ensure that the device is turned off and out of sight during unauthorized times. Violation of this policy and/or use that violates any other district policy shall result in disciplinary measures and confiscation of the electronic communication device. Confiscated devices shall be returned to the student only after a conference with parent/guardian, student and school principal. The building principal or designee may also refer the matter to law enforcement as appropriate.

1<sup>st</sup> Reading 11-10-10  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reading 12-8-10  
3<sup>rd</sup> Reading 1-12-11

**File: JS**

The district shall not be responsible for loss, theft or destruction of electronic communication devices brought onto school property.

Adopted: 1-12-11

CROSS REFS.: [JIC](#) and subcodes, Student Conduct

[JIH](#), Student Interrogations, Searches and Arrests

[JK](#) and subcodes, Student Discipline