

**SUBJECT: USE OF INTERNET-ENABLED DEVICES DURING THE SCHOOL DAY**

To promote a proper educational environment, ensure examination security, and protect individual privacy, the Board reserves the right to restrict the use of both District-owned technologies and personal devices on school property or during school-sponsored events.

**Policy Overview:**

Students are required to turn off and keep all personal devices in their lockers throughout the instructional school day, from the first bell to the last bell. If needed, students can be contacted during the instructional day through the main office. Reasonable exclusions as necessary for the management of a student's healthcare will follow the CSE and 504 process. The school is not responsible for any electronic devices brought to school.

**Prohibited Devices:**

The following devices are included, but are not limited to, in this policy:

- All personal internet-connected devices
- Cell phones
- iPods and MP3 players
- iPads, tablets, and other eReaders
- Personal laptops, notebooks, or any computing devices
- Cameras or other photographic equipment
- Wearable devices, including smartwatches and health monitors with a display
- Headphones, headsets, or in-ear headphones, such as earbuds
- Beepers

Students are generally prohibited from using Internet-enabled devices during the school day anywhere on school grounds.

"School day" means the entirety of every instructional day as required by subdivision 7 of the Education Law Section 3604 during all instructional time and non-instructional time, including but not limited to homeroom periods, lunch, recess, study halls, and passing time.

"School grounds" means in or on or within any building, structure, athletic playing field, playground, or land contained within the real property boundary line of a district elementary, intermediate, junior high, vocational, or high school, a charter school, or a BOCES facility.

However, students may be authorized to use an Internet-enabled device during the school day on school grounds:

- a) If authorized by a teacher, principal, or the District for a specific educational purpose;
- b) Where necessary for the management of a student's health care;
- c) In the event of an emergency;
- d) For translation services;
- e) On a case-by-case basis, upon review and determination by a school psychologist, school social worker, or school counselor for a student caregiver who is routinely responsible for the care and well-being of a family member; or
- f) Where required by law.

Students must be permitted to use an Internet-enabled device where the use is included in the student's:

- a) Individualized Education Program (IEP); or
- b) Section 504 Plan.

## **Student Discipline for Accessing Internet-Enabled Devices During the School Day**

### **Consequences for Violations:**

Students who violate this policy will have their electronic equipment confiscated. The use of personal electronic devices is prohibited from the first bell of the instructional day until the last bell.

### **Cyber Violations:**

The District's Code of Conduct prohibits inappropriate or unauthorized use of technology (such as personal electronic devices and the internet) to engage in bullying, intimidation, threats, harassment, maligning, defaming others, or accessing non-academic websites (e.g., social networking, media downloads). Violations will be treated as classroom disruptions and will result in disciplinary action as deemed appropriate by the administration.

Specific Offenses:

- 1. First Offense (Warning):** Students may recover the device from the main office at the end of the school day.
- 2. Second Offense:** The device will be confiscated, and a discipline referral will be issued. The level of discipline will be determined by the principal, and a parent/guardian must pick up the device.
- 3. Third Offense:** The device will be confiscated, and the student may receive up to two days of In-School Suspension. A parent/guardian will be required to pick up the device, and students will not return to their normal class schedule until the In-School Suspension is served.

For any further cyber violations beyond the third offense, a meeting will be required with the Superintendent, the student, and a parent or guardian to determine future compliance with this policy.