

Students

SUBJECT: Student Use of Personal Technology

The Board seeks to maintain a safe and secure environment for students and staff. This policy defines the use of personal technology during instructional and non-instructional times and reinforces the standard that all use, regardless of its purpose, must follow the guidelines outlined in the Student Acceptable Use Policy (AUP), the District's Code of Conduct, and the Dignity for All Students Act.

Personal technology includes all existing and emerging technology devices that can take photographs; record or play audio or video; input text; upload and download media; connect to or receive information from the internet; and transmit or receive messages, telephone calls, or images. Examples of personal technology include, but are not limited to, iPods and MP3 players; iPad, Nook, Kindle, and other tablet PCs; laptop and netbook computers; personal digital assistants (PDAs), cell phones and smart phones, as well as any other smart device with similar capabilities. Unacceptable devices include, but are not limited to, gaming devices or consoles, laser pointers, modems or routers, and televisions.

Instructional Purposes

The District provides all students with the necessary technology devices for instructional purposes. With that said, personal technology is not permitted for instructional purposes. All personal technology must be off or in silent mode and stored in a backpack or locker during instructional periods.

Students with disabilities may have exceptions to this policy if specified in their 504 plan or IEP.

Non-Instructional Uses

Appropriate use of personal technology during non-instructional time is allowed in some locations if students follow the guidelines in the AUP and Code of Conduct. Our TES students can only use personal technology before school hours, on buses, and during the Activity Period. Use of personal technology is not permitted during the hours of 8:00 am - 2:30 pm.

Our JSHS students can use personal technology before school hours, on buses, during their lunch block, and during the Activity Period only. The only personal technology use allowed during the hours of 8:00 am and 2:30 pm is the student's lunch period. Non-instructional use includes texting, calling, otherwise communicating with others, Internet searches, reading, listening to music, and watching videos. Use during non-instructional time must be conducted in a safe and unobtrusive manner. Devices must also be in silent mode or used with headphones to avoid disrupting others.

Students with disabilities may have exceptions to this policy if specified in their 504 plan or IEP.

Liability

The District will not be liable for the loss, damage, misuse, or theft of any personal technology brought to any of its schools. The District reserves the right to monitor, inspect, and/or confiscate

personal technology when the administration has reasonable suspicion to believe that a violation of school policy or criminal law has occurred.

The Board expressly prohibits use of personal technology in locker rooms, restrooms, health offices, and any other areas where a person would reasonably expect some degree of personal privacy.

Prohibition during State Assessments

All students are prohibited from bringing electronic devices into a classroom or other location where a New York State assessment is being administered. Test proctors, test monitors, and school officials have the right to collect prohibited electronic devices prior to the start of the test and hold them while the test is being administered, including break periods. Admission to any assessment will be denied to any student who refuses to relinquish a prohibited device.

Students with disabilities may have exceptions to this policy if specified in their 504 plan or IEP.

Permissions

Students will not be permitted to use personal technology devices in school or at school functions until they have reviewed the AUP, the applicable sections of the Code of Conduct and associated technology guidelines. The District reserves the right to restrict student use of District-owned technologies and personal technology on school property or at school sponsored events.

Students must follow guidelines for use set out in the District Code of Conduct and the AUP at all times. Consequences for misuse are set forth in the District's Code of Conduct.

NOTE: Refer also to Policies #7315 – Student Acceptable Use Policy (AUP)
#7550 – Dignity for All Students
#8271 – Internet Access and Acceptable Use Policy for Students, Faculty, and Staff/Internet Content Filtering

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