

Personal Electronic Devices and Social Media

Student possession or use of personal electronic devices on district property, in district facilities during the school day and while the student is in attendance at district-sponsored activities may be permitted subject to the limitations set forth in this policy and consistent with any additional school rules as may be established by the principal and approved by the superintendent.

A “personal electronic device” is a device that is capable of electronically communicating, sending, receiving, storing, recording, reproducing and/or displaying information and data. “Independent communication” means communication that does not require assistance or interpretation by an individual who is not part of the communication but that may require the use or assistance of an electronic device.

Personal electronic devices shall be turned off during instructional or class time or at any other time where such use of the device would cause a disruption of school activities. Devices which have the capability to take photographs, record video and/or audio shall not be used for such purposes while on district property or while a student is engaged in district-sponsored activities, unless as expressly authorized in advance by the principal or designee. Computers, tablets, iPads or similar devices brought to school will be restricted to academic activities and independent communications. Public events are excluded from this rule.

If the district implements a curriculum that uses technology, students may be allowed to use their own personal electronic devices to access the curriculum. Students who are allowed to use their own devices to access the curriculum will be granted access to any application or electronic materials when they are available to students who do not use their own devices, or provided free of charge to students who do not use their own devices, for curriculum.

A process for responding to a student’s request to use a personal electronic device, including an appeal process if the request is denied, will be provided.

The district will not be liable for personal electronic devices brought to district property and district-sponsored activities.

Students may not use district equipment to access social media websites, while on district property or at district-sponsored activities unless the access is approved by a district representative. The district will not be liable for information or comments posted by students on social media websites.

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

Students are subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion for using a personal electronic device in any manner that is academically dishonest, illegal or violates the terms of this policy¹. A referral

to law enforcement officials may also be made. Personal electronic devices brought to district property or used in violation of this policy are subject to confiscation and will be released to the student's parent or property owner, as appropriate.

The superintendent shall ensure that the Board's policy and any subsequent school rules developed by building administrators are reviewed and approved in advance to ensure consistency with this policy and that pertinent provisions of policy and school rules are communicated to staff, students and parents through building handbooks and other means.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

ORS 332.107

ORS 336.840

Copyrights, Title 17 United States code 101-1332; 19 CFR Part 133 (2017).

¹The taking, disseminating, transferring or sharing of obscene, pornographic or otherwise illegal images or photographs, whether by electronic data transfer or otherwise (commonly called texting, sexting, emailing, etc.) may constitute a crime under state and/or federal law. Any person taking, disseminating, transferring or sharing obscene, pornographic or otherwise illegal images or photographs will be reported to law enforcement and/or other appropriate state or federal agencies.

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