

Personal Electronic Devices and Social Media - Students

Personal Electronic Devices

A “personal electronic device” is a device, not issued by the district, that is capable of electronically communicating, sending, receiving, storing, recording, reproducing, and/or displaying information or data.

Personal electronic devices shall be silenced during instructional time or at any other time where such use of the device would cause a disruption of school activities.

Students may use and possess personal electronic devices on District grounds subject to the following:

1. Personal electronic devices shall not be used in a manner that disrupts the educational process, school programs or activities, or in a manner that violates law, Board policy, administrative regulation or school rules¹;
2. The district is not responsible for loss, theft or damage to personal electronic devices brought to district property or district-sponsored events;
3. Personal electronic devices may be used as electronic study aids during the school day if permission is received from the student’s teacher;
4. The use of personal electronic devices in any way to send or receive messages, data or information that would pose a threat to academic integrity, contribute to or constitute academic dishonesty is strictly prohibited;
5. The use of personal electronic devices in any manner that would violate the confidentiality or privacy rights of another individual is strictly prohibited;
6. Students shall comply with any additional school rules as established by the principal and classroom rules as approved by the principal concerning the appropriate use of personal electronic devices;

¹ The 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.

Social Media

Social media sites are web or mobile-based applications that permit users to interact over the Internet. Social media sites typically have functionality allowing users to post information representing the user (a “profile”) and provide the ability for a user to share text, audio, image or video data. Examples of social networking sites for the purposes of this document would be but are not limited to: Blogs, Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram. Social media sites allow users to connect and view profile information via a connection between accounts (“friending” or “following”).

Student use of Social media sites is subject to the following:

1. All Board policies and ethical expectations for appropriate student behavior must be followed.
2. All social media postings must be respectful and must follow District rules and policies.
3. Posts to any social media site must adhere to all applicable intellectual property and copyright laws.
4. Students should not share personal social media sites that permit social interaction with staff. This includes becoming “friends” or interacting through personal pages.
5. Social media interactions between staff and students and/or parents are considered public record, subject to data retention requirements and public records requests.
6. The district will not be responsible for information or comments posted by students on social media web sites when the student is not using social media tools directly related to district activities.
7. Students should read and follow Privacy and Terms of Use policies for any site they intend to use.