

Personal Communication Devices and Social Media - Students

Student possession or use of personal communication 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 communication device” is a device that emits an audible signal, vibrates, displays a message or otherwise summons or delivers a communication to the possessor of the device. These devices include, but are not limited to, cellular telephones, pagers, personal digital assistants (PDAs), laptop computers and similar devices with wireless capability. This also includes other digital audio and video devices such as, but not limited to, iPods, radios and TV.

Cellular telephones and pagers and other digital audio devices are not to be used during school hours unless given explicit permission by the teacher or an administrator. This restriction includes during instructional or class time, during passing times between classes, or at any other time where such use of the device would cause a disruption of school activities. **Exception at Sandy High School: Personal devices may be used during passing time, lunch and before/after school.** Cellular telephones which have the capability to take photographs or videos 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. Laptop computers and PDAs brought to school will be restricted to classroom or instructional-related activities only. The district will not be liable for personal communication devices brought to district property and district-sponsored activities.

Students may not access social media sites (e.g., YouTube and Twitter) using district equipment, while on district property or at district-sponsored activities unless the posting is approved by a district representative. The district will not be liable for information/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 in violation of this policy will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. The superintendent shall ensure that the Board’s policy is communicated to students and parents. The district will not be liable for information/comments posted by students on social media websites when the student is not engaged in district activities and not using district equipment.

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.

Personal communication devices are subject to being confiscated.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 332.107](#)