

Students

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

The District consulted with local stakeholders including employee organizations representing each bargaining unit, parents, and students to develop this policy to prohibit the use of Internet-enabled devices by students during the school day on school grounds. This policy aims to ensure that students remain focused on their academic responsibilities throughout the school day, which includes all instructional and non-instructional periods such as homeroom, lunch, recess, study halls, and passing time.

For purposes of this policy, the definitions provided in New York Education Law section 2803 apply.

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

However, students may be authorized to use an Internet-enabled device during the school day on school grounds in accordance with New York Education Law section 2803.

**On-Site Storage of Internet-Enabled Devices Including Cell Phones**

It is the student's responsibility to ensure that personal electronic devices are turned off and placed in designated areas during times when use is not authorized. Students must store their Internet-enabled devices in designated on-site storage areas during the school day. On-site storage areas may include, but are not limited to, student lockers, designated storage bins in classrooms, or secure storage areas in the school's main office. The designated on-site storage areas must be easily accessible to students and provide adequate security to ensure the safekeeping of the student's devices. The District will communicate the procedures for storing and retrieving devices, ensuring that students understand their responsibilities in using the on-site storage facilities provided.

**Loss or Damage**

The District shall not be responsible for the loss, theft, or destruction of personal electronic devices brought onto school, or District property, or while the student is attending District or school-sponsored activities or events.

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

**Methods for Parents to Contact Students During the School Day**

To accommodate necessary communication, parents or persons in parental relation may use the following methods to contact their student during school hours while adhering to this policy:

- a) School Office Phone: Parents or persons in parental relation may call the school's main office, and the office staff can relay messages to the student or call the student to the office to speak with their parent or person in parental relation.
- b) Designated Contact Email: Schools may provide a designated email address for parents and persons in parental relation to send messages. These emails may be monitored by school staff who can then pass the messages on to the students.
- c) School Messaging Application: Schools may use a secure messaging application or platform where parents or persons in parental relation can send messages to their student. The messages can be monitored and delivered by school staff.
- d) Written Notes: Parents or persons in parental relation can drop off written notes at the school's main office, which can then be delivered to the student by school staff.

Parents and persons in parental relation will be notified in writing of the methods that are available for contacting their student during school hours upon enrollment and at the beginning of each school year.

**Student Discipline**

The District will apply its code of conduct in accordance with the law.

**Posting and Translation of Policy**

The District will post this policy and provide translations in accordance with New York Education Law section 2803

**Reporting and Mitigation Action Plan**

Beginning September 1, 2026 and annually thereafter, the District will publish an annual report in accordance with New York Education Law section 2803.

**SUBJECT: ~~STUDENT USE OF PERSONAL TECHNOLOGY~~**

~~The Board seeks to maintain a safe and secure environment for students and staff. Advances in technology have made it possible to expand the learning environment beyond traditional classroom boundaries. Using personal electronic devices during instructional time can enable students to explore new concepts, personalize their learning experience, and expand their global learning opportunities. Additionally, the use of personal technology devices is ubiquitous in today's society and standards for student use during non-instructional time should adapt to this change. 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 *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. Unacceptable devices include, but are not limited to, gaming devices or consoles, laser pointers, modems or routers, and televisions.~~

**~~Instructional Purposes~~**

~~Personal technology use by students is permitted during the school day for instructional purposes and/or in approved locations only. Principals/Teachers will indicate when and if classroom use is acceptable. Students are expected to act responsibly and thoughtfully when using technology resources. Students must first inquire with school administrators or teachers when they are unsure of the permissibility of a particular use of technology.~~

~~Instructional purposes include, but are not limited to, approved classroom activities, research, college admissions activities, career development, communication with experts, homework, and other activities as deemed appropriate by school staff.~~

**~~Non-Instructional Uses~~**

~~Appropriate use of personal technology during non-instructional time is also allowed if students follow the guidelines in the AUP and *Code of Conduct*. Non-instructional use includes texting, calling, and otherwise communicating with others during free periods and in common areas of the school building such as the hallways, cafeteria, study halls, buses, and student lounges. Other non-instructional uses include 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 to avoid disrupting others.~~

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## **~~SUBJECT: STUDENT USE OF PERSONAL TECHNOLOGY (Cont'd.)~~**

### **~~Liability~~**

~~The BOCES will not be liable for the loss, damage, misuse, or theft of any personal technology brought to any of its schools. The BOCES 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 use certain devices if the device is specified in that student's IEP or 504 plan or a student has provided medical documentation that they require the device during testing.~~

### **~~Permission~~**

~~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, and signed the Student Use of Personal Technology Permission Form with their parents. The BOCES reserves the right to restrict student use of BOCES-owned technologies and personal technology on school property or at school-sponsored events.~~

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

~~NOTE: Refer also to Policies #7315 — Student Acceptable Use Policy (AUP)  
#7550 — Dignity for All Students  
#8271 — Internet Safety/Internet Content Filtering~~

~~Adoption Date: 12/12/24~~

Adoption Date