

Cell Phone/Device Process, Findings & Recommendations

School Board Meeting
April 8, 2025



Presentation Team

- Dr. Heather Cordie, *Deputy Superintendent*
 - Todd Corsetti, *High School Executive Administrator*
 - Robin Kobrowski, *PreK-8 Executive Administrator*
 - Dr. Patrick Meigs, *PreK-8 Executive Administrator*
 - Dr. Shelly Reggiani, *Executive Administrator for the Office of Equity and Inclusion*
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BSD Equity Lens



When making decisions or taking action, we utilize the following questions:

1. Whose voice is and isn't represented in this decision?
2. Who does this decision benefit or burden?
3. Is this decision in alignment with the BSD Equity Policy?
4. Does this decision close or widen the access, opportunity, and expectation gaps?



Objectives

- Foundational Ideas
- Survey Information
- Focus Group Summary
- Policy Recommendation
- Board Questions & Discussion

Our Promise



BELONG. BELIEVE. ACHIEVE.

Foundational Ideas

Safe & Thriving Student Health & Well-being



To achieve these **outcomes**



- Every student feels safe.
- Every student thrives socially and emotionally.
- All identities are valued, and every student is included.



Purpose

- Create a focused, distraction-free learning environment
- Prioritize student mental health and well-being
- Encourage strong peer and student-teacher interactions
- Strive to keep students engaged, focused, and challenged to reach their full potential
- Stay updated on research about the impact of personal electronic devices and adopt best practices as they evolve



Constituent Feedback

17,600+ Constituent Responses



District-Wide Survey

Survey Responses:

Parents – 6,576

Staff – 1,174

Students – 8,007



In-Person Focus Groups

Parent, staff and student focus groups – over 1,600 responses



Tumwater Middle School

Post-event feedback from
Parents

Feedback Themes

01

**Enhanced
Learning &
Focus**

Minimize distractions, person-to-person communication skills

02

**Balanced &
Uniform
Approach**

Use for academic purposes, promoting appropriate technology use and self-advocacy

03

**Positive
School
Culture**

Fostering self-control and responsible technology use, promoting safety, independence and in-person connections

04

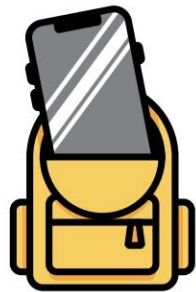
**Mental &
Physical
Health**

Reducing screen time, which supports students' mental health, lowers anxiety and encourages being present

05

**Safety &
Connection**

Plan that includes emergency communications



Pack It or Park It

Devices, including cell phones and wireless headphones/earbuds, must be packed into backpacks or parked in phone holders *during instructional times.*



Classrooms

Devices must be off and away at the start of class time. Cell phones will not be used as part of instruction. All staff will enforce this policy uniformly. Exceptions will be made for students whose IEP and 504 plans indicate device-related accommodations.



Hallways & Restrooms

Devices will not be allowed in hallways or restrooms during class time.



Passing Time & Lunch

Students may use phones during passing time and lunch.

General Guidelines

- All students are required to "pack or park" their cell phones and electronic devices (smart watches and earbuds), during the school day as determined by level.
- "Pack" means storing the device in a backpack, locker, or other designated area.
- "Park" means placing the device in a designated area within the classroom or school premises.

Leveled Distinction Recommendation

Grades Pre K-8:

- Students in grades K-8 must have their devices packed or parked from the start of the school day until the end of the school day.
- Devices must remain off or in silent mode and may not be accessed during school hours, including recess, passing periods, and lunch breaks.

High School & Options (Grades 6-12):

- During class time, devices must be packed or parked and remain off or in silent mode.
- High school and option program students may access their devices during passing periods and lunch breaks.

Response & Exceptions

Response for Non-Compliance:

- Students who do not comply with the district policy or their school's personal electronic device requirements may be subject to consequences as outlined in the district's Student Code of Conduct, including having their personal devices held for parent pick-up

Exceptions:

- Compliance with a student's Individual Education Plan (IEP), 504 Plan, or other requirement to access the educational programming or communication at school
- Emergency situations as determined by school staff

Implementation & Review

Implementation:

- Teachers, staff and administrators are responsible for enforcing this policy.
- School administration will provide clear communication to students and parents/guardians regarding the policy and its importance, and will provide follow-through with school consequences.

Review and Revision:

- A recommended update to board policy will be presented as a separate agenda item.
- Details will be established in district regulations, which will be reviewed periodically and revised as necessary to ensure continued effectiveness and relevance.



**What
questions do
you have?**

