

#5090.9

**Use of Private Technology Devices by Students
(formerly Electronic Communication Device)**

Students may possess privately-owned technological devices on school property and/or during school-sponsored activities, in accordance with the mandates of this policy and any applicable administrative regulations as may be developed by the Superintendent of Schools.

Definitions

Board Technology Resources

For the purposes of this policy, “Board technology resources” refers to the Madison Board of Education’s (the “Board’s”) computers and instructional technologies; communications and data management systems; informational technologies and the Internet; and any other technology resources owned and/or used by the school district and accessible by students.

Privately-owned Technological Devices

For the purposes of this policy, “privately-owned technological devices” refers to privately-owned desktop computers, wireless and/or portable electronic hand-held equipment that can be used for word processing, wireless Internet access, image capture and recording, sound recording, information transmitting and/or receiving, storing, etc. These devices may include, but are not limited to, desktops, personal laptops, Smartphones, network access devices, Kindles, Nooks, cellular telephones, radios, personal audio players, I-Pads or other tablet computers, walkie-talkies, Blackberries, personal data assistants, I-Phones, Androids and other electronic signaling devices.

Use of Privately-Owned Technological Devices

34 Privately-owned technological devices may not be used during instructional time, except
35 as specifically permitted by instructional staff or unless necessary for a student to access
36 the district’s digital learning platform or otherwise engage in remote learning.

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38 On school property, at a school-sponsored activity, while in use for a remote learning
39 activity, or while being used to access or utilize Board technology resources, the use of
40 any such device for an improper purpose is prohibited. Improper purposes include, but
41 are not limited to:

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- 43 • Sending any form of a harassing, threatening, or intimidating message, at any
44 time, to any person (such communications may also be a crime);
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- 46 • Gaining or seeking to gain unauthorized access to Board technology resources;
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- 48 • Damaging Board technology resources;
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- 50 • Accessing or attempting to access any material that is obscene, obscene as to
51 minors, or contains pornography;
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- 53 • Cyberbullying;
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- 55 • Using such device to violate any school rule, including the unauthorized
56 recording (photographic, video, or audio) of another individual without the
57 permission of the individual or a school staff member; or
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- 59 • Taking any action prohibited by any Federal or State law.

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61 **Search of Privately-Owned Technological Devices**

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63 A student’s privately-owned technological device may be searched if the device is on
64 Board property or in a student’s possession at a school-sponsored activity and if there are

65 reasonable grounds for suspecting that the search will turn up evidence that the student
66 has violated or is violating either the law or the rules of the school. Any such search shall
67 be reasonably related to the objectives of the search and not excessively intrusive in light
68 of the age and sex of the student and the nature of the infraction.

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70 **Responsibility for Privately-owned Technological Devices**

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72 Students are responsible for the safety and use of their privately-owned technological
73 devices. If a privately-owned technological device is stolen, lost, or damaged while the
74 device is on school property or during a school-sponsored activity, a report should be
75 made to the building principal, who will investigate the loss in a manner consistent with
76 procedures for stolen or damaged personal property. Students and parents should be
77 aware that the Board is not liable for any privately-owned technological device that is
78 stolen, lost, or damaged while at school or during a school-sponsored activity. For that
79 reason, students are advised not to share or loan their privately-owned technological
80 devices with other students.

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82 **Disciplinary Action**

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84 Misuse of the Board's technology resources and/or the use of privately-owned
85 technological devices to access or utilize the Board's technology resources in an
86 inappropriate manner or the use of such devices in any manner inconsistent with this
87 policy will not be tolerated and will result in disciplinary action. For students, a violation
88 of this policy may result in loss of access privileges, a prohibition on the use and/or
89 possession of privately-owned technological devices on school property or at school-
90 sponsored activities, and/or suspension or expulsion in accordance with the Board's
91 policies related to student discipline.

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94 **Access to Board Technology Resources**

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96 The Board may permit students, using their privately-owned technological devices, to
97 access the Board's computers and instructional technologies; communications and data

98 management systems; informational technologies and the Internet; and any other
99 technology resources used by the school district and accessible by students. Additionally,
100 it is the expectation of the Board that students who access these resources while using
101 privately-owned technology devices will act at all times appropriately in ways which are
102 fully in accord with applicable policies concerning technology use as well as all local,
103 state, and federal laws.

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105 Through the publication and dissemination of this policy statement and others related to
106 use of the Board's computer systems, as well as other instructional means, the Board
107 educates students about the Board's expectations for technology users.

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109 The Board technology resources shall only be used to access educational information and
110 to promote learning activities both at home and at school. Students are expected to act
111 at all times appropriately in ways which are fully in accord with applicable policies
112 concerning technology use as well as all local, state, and federal laws when using the
113 Board technology resources. Failure to do so will result in the consequences outlined
114 herein and in other applicable policies (including, but not limited to, the Safe School
115 Climate Plan, the Student Discipline Policy and the Use of Computers Policy).

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117 Students must abide by the procedures outlined in this policy and all policies and
118 applicable regulations outlined in the Board's computer use and other applicable policies.
119 Students will be given specific information for log-on and access procedures for using
120 school accounts. No user may deviate from these log-on/access procedures. **Students**
121 **are advised that the Board's network administrators have the capability to identify**
122 **users and to monitor all privately-owned technological devices while they are logged**
123 **on to the network.** Students must understand that the Board has reserved the right to
124 conduct monitoring of Board technology resources and can do so *despite* the assignment
125 to individual users of passwords for system security. Any password systems implemented
126 by the Board are designed solely to provide system security from unauthorized users, not
127 to provide privacy to the individual system user. The system's security aspects, message
128 delete function and personal passwords can be bypassed for monitoring purposes.

129 Therefore, students should be aware that they should not have any expectation of personal
130 privacy in the use of privately-owned technological devices to access Board technology
131 resources. This provision applies to any and all uses of the Board’s technology resources
132 and any privately-owned technological devices that access the same.

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134 **Harm to Board Technology Resources**

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136 Any act by a student using a privately-owned technological device that harms the Board
137 technology resources or otherwise interferes with or compromises the integrity of Board
138 technology resources will be considered vandalism and will be subject to discipline
139 and/or appropriate criminal or civil action.

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141 **Closed Forum**

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143 This policy shall not be construed to establish a public forum or a limited open forum.

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146 Legal References:

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148 Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-233j

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150 Conn. Gen. Stat. § 31-48d

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152 Conn. Gen. Stat. §§ 53a-182; 53a-183; 53a-250, *et seq.*

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154 Electronic Communication Privacy Act of 1986, Public Law 99-508, codified at
155 28 U.S.C. §§ 2510 through 2520

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