

Code: **JFCEB**

Adopted: **9/25/25**

## **Personal Electronic Devices \*/\*\***

Student use of a personal electronic device is prohibited from the start of regular instructional hours until the end of regular instructional hours, except as provided below. Personal electronic devices can be used when students are not on school grounds and are not under the supervision of school personnel (other than a school bus driver)<sup>1</sup>.

Except as otherwise provided in this policy, “personal electronic device” means any portable, electrically powered device that is capable of making and receiving calls and text messages and accessing the internet independently from the school’s network infrastructure. This includes personal electronic devices that can make calls, send texts, or access the internet via cellular data **are restricted**. This includes smartphones, web-enabled flip phones, cellular-capable tablets and e-readers, smartwatches, smart glasses, and connected headphones or earbuds. This does not include laptop computers or other devices required to support academic activities.

Personal electronic devices may be used when use complies with the terms of:

1. The student’s medical provider’s order for the care and treatment of a medical condition;<sup>2</sup>
2. The student’s individualized education program, as defined in ORS 343.035 or an education plan developed for the student in accordance with section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794);<sup>3</sup>
3. A written exemption provided for the student based on a request received in JFCEB-AR. School administration will respond to such a request within ten school days.<sup>4</sup>

Personal electronic devices may not be used during regular instructional hours. Storage of devices may vary by grade level.

Students in violation of this policy will be subject to disciplinary action. Discipline for mere possession or use of a personal electronic device may not include loss of instructional time for the student (including suspension or expulsion), but could include detention, a change to storage requirements, etc. However, if the actions taken by a student violate another conduct policy, the student may be subject to discipline up to and including expulsion.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> If students are under the supervision of school personnel other than a school bus driver, the use of personal electronic devices is prohibited during regular instructional hours.

<sup>2</sup> JFCEB-AR must be submitted to the building administrator, along with a copy of the order.

<sup>3</sup> If use of the personal electronic device is included in the individualized education program or education plan, JFCEB-AR submission is not required.

<sup>4</sup> JFCEB-AR must be submitted to the building administrator.

<sup>5</sup> For example: a student could be disciplined with lost instructional time for using a personal electronic device to bully another student. Discipline will be in accordance with Board policies.

Steps for addressing non-compliance shall ~~may~~ include:

1. First ~~instance~~ Incident of Noncompliance: the device will be temporarily confiscated and held at the front office until the end of the school day. Parents or caregivers will be notified. The student or parent/caregiver may retrieve the device from the office at the end of the school day. ~~staff will give the student a verbal reminder of the policy and expectations to reinforce appropriate use of personal electronic devices;~~
2. Second ~~Instance~~ Incident of Noncompliance: the device will be temporarily confiscated and held at the front office until the end of the school day. ~~The student may pick it up at the end of the day.~~ Parents or caregivers will ~~[may]~~ be notified. The parent/caregiver may retrieve the device from the office at the end of the school day. Major referral will be issued to student.
3. Third ~~Instance~~ Incident of Noncompliance: the device will be temporarily confiscated and held at the front office until the end of the school day. Parents or caregivers will be notified. The parent/caregiver may retrieve the device from the office at the end of the school day. Major referral will be issued to student. ~~Detention will be issued to student. parents or caregivers [are able to pick it up or other arrangements are made with school administration for pickup]. A meeting with school administration and family maybe arranged to review the policy and plan for improved compliance;~~
4. Beyond Third ~~Instance~~ Incident of Noncompliance: ~~If non-compliance continues, schools will determine additional appropriate consequences, always prioritizing keeping students in class and engaged in learning.~~ same consequences from previous incident apply, plus a meeting between the student, parent/caregiver, and administrator to formulate a plan for improved compliance.

**WARNING DAYS:** The first week of each new school year will be a warning week, where education and retraining is offered.

Necessary communications between students and parents or caregivers can be made through the school office.

The superintendent or designee shall ensure this policy is posted on the district website and made available to district personnel, students, parents, guardians, partners who are in school buildings during the school day, and the Oregon Department of Education.

In accordance with ORS 336.840, students may be allowed to use personal electronic devices<sup>6</sup> that support academic activities and independent communications<sup>7</sup>, except as prohibited by this policy. In academic activities in which a personal electronic device is required as part of the curriculum, students may be allowed, but not required to use their own personal electronic devices for that portion of the curriculum. Students using their own device must be granted access to any applications or electronic materials that are available to students who do not use their own personal electronic devices. These applications must be free of charge if students who do not use their own devices have access free of charge.

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<sup>6</sup> The use of “personal electronic device” in this paragraph comes from ORS 336.840, which does not define the term. However, the definition in EO 25-09 wouldn’t necessarily apply. Consequently, items like laptop computers or other devices required to support academic activities would likely be considered personal electronic devices within this paragraph.

<sup>7</sup> “Independent communication means communication that does not require assistance or interpretation by an individual who is not part of the conversation, but that may require the use or assistance of an electronic device. ORS 336.840(1).

Requests for exemptions to this policy can be processed in accordance with JFCEB-AR, Request for Personal Electronic Devices Exemption. Appeals can be filed with the superintendent in accordance with KL-AR, Public Complaints.

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.

**Disclaimer:** North Wasco County School District assumes no responsibility or liability for the loss, theft, damage, or unauthorized use of personal electronic devices brought onto school property. Individuals who choose to bring such devices do so at their own risk, and the district shall not be held accountable for any resulting claims or expenses.

END OF POLICY

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**Legal Reference(s):**

[ORS 332.107](#)

[ORS 336.840](#)

Oregon Executive Order 25-09