

Code: JFCEB Adopted:

## **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.<sup>2</sup> This includes headphones and earbuds attached to personal electronic devices. This does not include a laptop computer or other device 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>3</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>4</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 15 school days.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;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>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> ODE's guidance, *Fostering Student Learning, Well-Being, and Belonging* provides "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."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> JFCEB-AR must be submitted to the building administrator, along with a copy of the order.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</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>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> JFCEB-AR must be submitted to the building administrator.

Personal electronic devices may be kept by students in school or classroom lockers or backpacks, but personal electronic devices are not to be stored on the student's person or in the student's clothing during regular instructional hours.

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, Saturday school, 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>6</sup> Steps may include:

- 1. First Instance of Noncompliance: staff will give the student a verbal reminder of the policy and expectations to reinforce appropriate use of personal electronic devices;
- 2. Second Instance of Noncompliance: the device will be temporarily confiscated and held and the front office until the end of the school day. Parents or guardians will be notified, and a meeting with school administration may be scheduled to discuss ways to support the student;
- 3. Third Instance of Noncompliance: the device will again be temporarily held, and parents or guardians will be informed. A meeting with school administration and family will be arranged to review the policy and plan for improved compliance;
- 4. Beyond Third Instance of Noncompliance: In noncompliance continues, schools will determine additional appropriate consequences, always prioritizing keeping students in class and engaged in learning.

Necessary communications during the school day while on school grounds between students and parents or guardians 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.

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 or designee in accordance with KL-AR(1) – Public Complaint Procedure.

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.

This policy takes effect on January 1, 2026.

## **END OF POLICY**

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> For example: a student could be disciplined with lost instructional time for using a personal electronic device to bully another student or for accessing inappropriate content. Discipline will be in accordance with Board policies.

Legal Reference(s): ORS 332.107

ORS 336.840

Oregon Executive Order 25-09