BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS Bloomfield, Connecticut

Administrative Regulations

R5131.81(a)

Students

Electronic Devices

Purpose

The purpose of these administrative regulations is to provide guidelines and procedures for the use of personal technology devices, including cell phones, by students during the school day and at school-sponsored activities.

Definitions

"District-Issued Technology" refers to computers, instructional technologies, communications and data management systems, informational technologies, the internet, and any other technology resources owned and/or used by the school district and accessible by students, including "Personal Technology" pouches.

"Personal Technology" refers to privately owned wireless and/or portable electronic handheld equipment that can be used for word processing, wireless internet access, image capture and recording, gaming, sound recording, information transmitting and/or receiving or storing information or data. This includes, but is not limited to, devices such as iPads, tablets, smartwatches, gaming devices, and wireless earbuds/headphones.

Student Responsibilities

Students are responsible for the safe use and security of their personal technology devices. The school district is not liable for any personal technology that is stolen, lost, or damaged while on school property or at school-sponsored events.

Students shall not share or loan their personal technology devices with other students.

Students must ensure their personal technology devices are turned off, silenced, or in airplane mode during the school day, except as permitted under this policy.

Permitted Use of Personal Technology

Students in grades 5-12 may bring personal technology devices to school but must ensure the devices are turned off, silenced, or in airplane mode. The devices must be stored in the district-issued personal technology pouches throughout the school day.

Students in grades PK-4 may bring personal technology devices to school but the devices must remain completely out of view and cannot be used at any time during the school day.

Personal technology devices may be used by students if required by their Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or 504 plan, or if otherwise approved by the building principal.

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Personal technology devices may be used by students during school-sponsored activities, such as field trips, with the approval of the supervising staff member.

Prohibited Use of Personal Technology

Except as permitted above, students are prohibited from using personal technology devices during the school day.

Students shall not use personal technology devices in a manner that disrupts the educational environment or violates school rules.

Students shall not use personal technology devices to photograph, record, or video other students or staff without their knowledge and consent.

Disciplinary Action

Misuse of personal technology devices in an inappropriate or prohibited manner will result in disciplinary action as outlined in the student handbook.

Disciplinary action will follow a tiered approach, with increasing consequences for repeated offenses.

If a student loses or damages the district-issued personal technology pouch, the student must acquire a new one from the school at their own expense.

Exceptions

Administrators have flexibility to adjust consequences for students who fall under DCF care, McKinney-Vento, or similar circumstances.