

School Board Meeting Agenda Item

Topic: Cell Phone Policy
Contact(s):
Presenter(s): Martina Wagner, Superintendent
School Board Members
Building Principals

Nature of Action Requested by Board

Board action
Board information or scheduled report

<input type="checkbox"/>
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Background Information

MSBA does not have a stand-alone cell phone policy. We have cell phone provisions in our Policy 524 (Internet Use). MSBA is working with a state representative who is proposing a cell phone policy law. MSBA is also working with MESPA and MSSPA on guidelines and alternatives for schools to consider when it comes to cell phones. It is anticipated that materials will be available by June (after the legislative session).

The board will discuss the current portion of Policy 524 Internet Acceptable Use and Safety Policy that references cell phone use.

Our current Policy 524 and examples of cell phone policies from the Big 9 are included in the packet.

Below is the section of our Policy 524 that pertains to cell phone use.

XVI. CELL PHONE USE

- A. Students are prohibited from using cell phones and other electronic communication devices during the instructional day. Students also are prohibited from using a cell phone or other electronic communication device to engage in conduct prohibited by school district policies including, but not limited to, cheating, bullying, harassment, and malicious and sadistic conduct.
- B. If the school district has a reasonable suspicion that a student has violated a school policy, rule, or law by use of a cell phone or other electronic communication device, the school district may search the device. The search of the device will be reasonably related in scope to the circumstances justifying the search.

- C. Students who use an electronic communication device during the school day and/or in violation of school district policies may be subject to disciplinary action pursuant to the school district's discipline policy. In addition, a student's cell phone or electronic communication device may be confiscated by the school district and, if applicable, provided to law enforcement. Cell phones or other electronic communication devices that are confiscated and retained by the school district will be returned in accordance with school building procedures.