
Note: For searches of personal communication devices or other personal electronic devices, see FNF.

Purpose

This policy is established as required by Section 37.082 of the Texas Education Code and to reduce distractions for students during the school day and to minimize interruptions to the learning process for all students. The District recognizes that a personal communication device may be a safety tool but asks that parents and guardians call the school's phone number to relay any urgent messages to their child.

Personal Use

A student shall not use a personal communication device on school property during the school day. While on school property the student shall store any personal communication device in accordance with this policy and the Student Code of Conduct adopted by the Board pursuant to this policy.

**Personal
Communication
Device Defined**

As used in this policy, the term "personal communication device" includes a telephone, cell phone, such as a smartphone or flip phone, tablet, radio device, smartwatch, or any other electronic device capable of telecommunication or digital communication. The term does not include an electronic device provided to a student by the District.

**Personal
Communication
Device**

All personal communication devices will be turned off and stored out of sight during the school day while in the school building and not be turned on and/or removed from storage until leaving the school building (as more specifically set forth in the Student Code of Conduct). All personal communication devices must remain turned off during the school day and stored unless the devices are being used for approved purposes as provided in this policy. (See Exceptions)

An authorized District employee may confiscate a personal communication device from a student who is in violation this policy and/or the applicable provisions of the Student Code of Conduct. An authorized District employee may allow the use of a personal communication device during the school day in extenuating circumstances only as set forth in the Student Code of Conduct.

The use of cell phones or personal communications devices capable of capturing images is strictly prohibited in locker rooms or restroom areas at any time. Additionally, cell phones and telecommunications devices shall not be used at any time to capture video or

images at school unless given permission by an authorized District administrator.

This policy shall take effect for Grades PK-12 for the 2025-2026 school year.

**Consequences for
Unauthorized Use of
Personal
Communication
Device**

The consequences for violating this policy (including but not limited to unauthorized use of a personal communication device on school property during the school day) have been established based on the student's grade level and campus and are detailed in the Board adopted Student Code of Conduct.

**Notice of Disposal to
Parent or Guardian**

In accordance with Texas Education Code § 37.082, if a parent or guardian has not retrieved the personal communications device after a reasonable time has passed, the District shall send written notice to the student's parent/guardian or student, if 18 years old, a letter 90 days prior of its intent to dispose of that device.

Exception

A student may be exempted from this policy or parts of this policy if the use of a personal communication device is:

- 1) necessary to implement an individualized education program, a plan created under Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. Section 794), or a similar program or plan;
- 2) by a student with a documented need based on a directive from a qualified physician; or
- 3) necessary to comply with health or safety requirement imposed by law or as part of the district's or school's safety protocols.

Instructional Use

A student shall not use a personal communication device or other personal electronic devices for on-campus instructional purposes. The student shall also acknowledge receipt and understanding of applicable technology regulations and shall sign the appropriate user agreements. [See CQ]

Implementation

The Student Code of Conduct will outline the implementation of this policy.

Compliance

Annually, the Superintendent shall report to the Board on implementation of and compliance with this policy.