



Student Use of Personal Electronic Devices in Schools

We are committed to supporting student mental health and wellbeing and to creating environments where students feel safe, welcome, and excited to learn. Peer and student-to-teacher interactions are fundamental to learning, and we must create the conditions that allow students to be engaged, focused, and challenged so they can reach their full potential. We are committed to understanding quality research on the use and impact of Personal Electronic Devices on the educational environment and adopting best practices as they evolve.

I. Definitions

“Personal Electronic Device” is a device that is capable of electronically communicating, sending, receiving, storing, recording, reproducing and/or displaying information, depictions, and/or data.

II. General Guidelines

- A. Personal Electronic Devices must be “off and away” throughout the school day so that the device cannot disrupt students or the learning environment unless otherwise permitted under this policy or the related Administrative Directive.
- B. **Additional Restrictions May Be Adopted by a School:** Nothing in this policy prevents a building administrator from adopting additional restrictions on the use of Personal Electronic Devices during school hours.
- C. **Discipline:** Students who do not comply with this policy or the Personal Electronic Device requirements of their school may be subject to discipline as outlined in the District’s [Student Rights and Responsibility Handbook](#), including having their Personal Electronic Devices confiscated.
- D. **Exceptions:** Categories of exceptions to this policy, shall include, but not be limited to:
 - i. complying with a student’s Individual Education Plan (IEP), 504 Plan, or other requirement to access the educational programming or communication at school;
 - ii. supporting specific academic activities as determined by a building administrator;
 - iii. application of the policy in the District’s alternative educational programs;
 - iv. and others as defined by the Superintendent.
- E. **No Bullying or Harassment:**
 - i. Students may not take videos or photos during school activities or otherwise use their Personal Electronic Devices to harass or bully another individual or otherwise violate PPS’s Student [Anti-harassment and Teen Dating Violence Policy](#), PPS’s student handbook, or other policy.



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- F. **Equitable Support for Schools:** To the extent the District provides financial resources to schools to implement this policy, it shall do so equitably.
- G. **Individual Exceptions and Appeals:** The Superintendent shall establish a process and timeline for responding to a student's request to use a Personal Electronic Device otherwise not permitted by this policy or a school practice and any appeal of that response.

Approved: 1/2025