

Use of Electronic Communications Devices and Cameras

The objective of this policy is to strengthen the School's focus on learning, in alignment with our mission to ignite students' passion for learning, cultivate a strong foundation of knowledge, and foster a sense of community within our schools.

Research shows that student use of cell phones in schools has negative effects on student performance and mental health. Cell phones distract students from classroom instruction, resulting in smaller learning gains and lower test scores. Increased cell phone use has led to higher levels of depression, anxiety, and other mental health disorders in children.

"Electronic communications device" (ECD) is defined in Ohio law to mean any device that is powered by batteries or electricity and that is capable of receiving, transmitting, or receiving and transmitting communications between two or more persons or a communication from or to a person. Examples of ECDs include, but are not limited to, cellular phones, smart phones and tablets, smart watches, video games, walkie-talkies, pagers, and other similar electronic devices. "Camera devices" may also be ECDs, and include, but are not limited to, digital cameras, cellular phones with cameras, camcorders, and other imaging devices.

Rule.

OPTION 1 *Students from carrying an electronic communications device in any school building or on any school grounds or premises of the district*

OPTION 2 *Students are prohibited from using ECDs during the instructional day in accordance with this policy.*

"Instructional day" means

[] from the beginning of the first scheduled class period to the end of the last scheduled class period (i.e., from "bell to bell").

[x] from the beginning of the first scheduled class period to the end of the last scheduled class period, excluding lunch, recess, homeroom, class changes, breaks, and, as authorized by a teacher or administrator, during non-instructional activities.

Exceptions.

A student may possess and use an ECD to monitor or address a health concern if the School receives a written statement from the student's physician requiring such use.

A students may use an ECDs in accordance with a written IEP or Section 504 plan for learning or to monitor or address a health concern.

[x] Students may use ECDs for student learning upon limited, prior approval by an authorized teacher or administrator.

[x] Students may use ECDs during an active threat or emergency in accordance with Policy 2620, School Safety, Emergency Management Plan.

User Liability.

The School and its employees are not responsible for theft, loss, damage, or destruction of ECDs and camera devices brought on to school property. Students are solely responsible for devices they bring on school property.

Discipline.

At no time shall ECDs or camera devices be used in a manner disruptive to the instructional process, disruptive to the School's academic mission, or inconsistent with Policy No. 4430, Internet and Technology Use, Policy No. 4103, Harassment, and Policy No. 4104, Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying.

Students shall keep their ECDs and camera devices in a secure place, such as the student's locker, a closed backpack, or a storage device provided by the School, at all times when cell phone use is prohibited.

Students who violate this policy will be subject to disciplinary action and the student may lose his/her privilege to bring the ECD onto school property and/or have his/her device confiscated. If confiscated, the student shall cooperate in surrendering the ECD, and the device will only be returned to the student's parent or guardian. While confiscated, the School may further inspect the ECD if it reasonably believes the student has violated other policies in accordance with Policy 4490, Search and Seizure.

A student disciplined for harassment, intimidation, or bullying while using an ECD (pursuant to the Code of Conduct and/or Policy Nos. 4103, Harassment, and 4104, Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying) will lose his/her privilege to bring the ECD onto School property ***[x] for the remainder of the school year.***

Ohio: R.C. 3313.753

Cross Reference: Policy No. 4103, Harassment; Policy No. 4103, Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying; Policy No. 4430, Internet & Technology Acceptable Use.

School Calamity

By August 1 of each school year, the School shall adopt a plan to provide instruction via online delivery in order to make up hours in that school year for which it is necessary to close schools for disease epidemic, hazardous weather conditions, law enforcement emergencies, inoperability of school buses or other equipment necessary to the school's operation, damage to a school building, or other temporary circumstances due to utility failure rendering the school building unfit for use.

The plan shall be designed to ensure continuity of learning for students during a school closure and shall include all of the following:

A statement that the School, to the extent possible, will provide for teacher-directed synchronous learning in which the teacher and students are interacting in real time on a virtual learning platform during the closure;

The School's attendance requirements, including how the School will document participation in learning opportunities and how the School will reach out to students to ensure engagement during the closure;

A description of how equitable access to quality instruction will be ensured, including how the School will address the needs of students with disabilities, English learners, and other vulnerable student populations;

The process the School will use to notify staff, students, and parents that the School will be using online delivery of instruction;

Information on contacting teachers by telephone, electronic mail, or a virtual learning platform during the closure;

A description of how the School will meet the needs of staff and students regarding internet connectivity and technology for online delivery of instruction.

The plan shall provide for making up any number of hours, up to a maximum of the number of hours that are the equivalent of three school days.

The School shall not be considered to have failed to comply with the minimum number of hours required with respect to the number of make-up hours for which the plan is utilized.

O.R.C. 3313.482; 3314.08.



I'M
FINE*

*I'M OVERWHELMED
& DON'T KNOW HOW
TO ASK FOR HELP.

WE ALL HIDE HOW
WE FEEL SOMETIMES.

It can help to talk—
whatever you're dealing with...

- Anxiety
- Loneliness
- Thoughts of suicide
- Relationship problems
- Depression
- Literally anything

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