

PERSONAL CELL PHONES AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES

The possession and use of personal cell phones and other electronic devices are subject to the following protocols:

1. The use of cell phones and other electronic devices is prohibited in academic spaces. Cell phones must be put away and unused during instructional time.
2. Cell phones must be turned off or silenced during instructional time unless: (a) the teacher grants permission for them to be used; (b) the use of the device is provided for in a student's IEP, 504, or health plan; or (c) the device is needed during an emergency.
3. Proper use of cell phones will be permitted in common areas such as the cafeteria, hallways, and media center.
4. Cell phones may not be used in any manner that will cause disruption to the educational environment or will otherwise violate student conduct rules.
5. Students shall be personally responsible for the security of their personal cell phone or other electronic device. The district assumes no responsibility for theft, loss, or damage of such devices.
6. Students who fail to comply with the policy and procedures regarding the possession and use of cell phones and other electronic devices may be subject to interventions, search and/or disciplinary consequences.
 - a. Consequences for violating the Academic Integrity Policy are separate from, and in addition to, those assigned with violating the Electronic Devices Policy and Procedures.
 - b. Students using electronic devices for unlawful purposes including but not limited to bullying, hate speech, and intimidation will be disciplined according to the district's standard discipline policy and/or referred to law enforcement agencies, where appropriate.
 - c. Disciplinary consequences will be considered for any students using electronic devices, including a cell phone, or any other electronic device to take or transmit digital photographic images, pictures, audio recordings, or movies of an individual or individuals without their consent anywhere on school grounds or during a school-related activity. Per Illinois Criminal Code (720 ILCS 5/26-4), it is unlawful for any person to knowingly videotape, photograph, or film another person without that person's consent in locker rooms, changing rooms, restrooms, etc.
 - d. Electronic devices may not be used for creating, sending, sharing, viewing, receiving, or possessing indecent visual depictions or non-consensual dissemination of private sexual images as defined in State law, i.e., sexting. Possession is prohibited regardless of whether the depiction violates State law. Any cellular phone or electronic device may be searched by law enforcement upon reasonable suspicion of sexting or other violations of policy. All sexting violations will require school administrators to follow student discipline policies in addition to contacting the police and reporting suspected child abuse or neglect when appropriate.

