



512 Use of Cell Phones, Digital Imaging Devices and other Personal Electronic Devices

I. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to set forth expectations for appropriate use of existing and emerging technologies which students may possess, including but not limited to cell phones, digital picture/video cameras and/or camera phones, personal digital assistants, iPods, MP3's, pagers and other personal electronic devices.

II. General Statement of Policy

North Shore Community School holds high expectations for student behavior, academic integrity and responsible use of existing and emerging technologies. Students who possess devices at school or school sponsored events shall demonstrate the greatest respect for the educational environment and the rights and privacy of all individuals within the school community.

III. Respect for the Educational Environment

A. Cellular phones and other personal electronic devices shall be turned off and kept out of sight during the school day.

B. Students shall not use any electronic device that in any way disrupts or detracts from the educational environment.

C. Students will not be allowed to leave class in response to electronic devices.

D. With prior approval of the school director, teachers may permit the purposeful use of personal electronic devices in support of curricular objectives.

E. In the case of medical necessity or emergency, a student shall be permitted to possess or use a cell phone or other personal electronic device provided the student receives advanced authorization from the school director or designee.

IV. Respect for Privacy Rights

A. Students shall not e-mail, post to the internet or otherwise electronically transmit images of other individuals taken at school without their expressed written consent.

B. State law strictly prohibits the use of cellular phones or other personal electronic devices in locker rooms and restrooms.

V. Assuring Academic Integrity

Students shall not use cellular phones or other electronic devices in any way that may cause a teacher or staff member to question whether the student may be cheating on tests or academic work or violating copyright policy.

VI. Compliance with Other District Policies

Use of cellular phones or other personal electronic devices must not violate any other district policy including those regarding student privacy, copyright, cheating, plagiarism, civility, student behavior or harassment. If a violation occurs involving more than one district policy, consequences for each may apply.

VII. Violations of This Policy

A. In the case of inappropriate use of cellular phone or other electronic device, an employee shall direct the student to turn off the device and to store it appropriately.

B. Repeated infractions will be considered disruptive, disorderly or insubordinate behaviors. Consequences of inappropriate use of cellular phones or other electronic devices that are in violation of other district policies can be referenced in the student discipline policy.

C. Severe or illegal infractions shall result in student referral to the Director, who may confiscate the device, notify parents and/or police when appropriate. If cellular phones or other electronic devices are suspected to be used in the violation of other district policies or used in the process of illegal activity, the contents may be considered evidence and reviewed by school administration. Confiscated devices will be returned to a parent/guardian after the school day unless legal implications require otherwise.