

# EPHRATA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: ELECTRONIC DEVICES

ADOPTED: April 25, 2005

REVISED: December 21, 2015

237. ELECTRONIC DEVICES	
1. Purpose	The Board believes that the educational environment should be free from unnecessary disruptions, distractions, and threats. The Board has determined that the presence of electronic devices in schools has the potential to distract from the primary purpose of education and otherwise disrupt the educational environment; therefore, the Board adopts this policy to establish reasonable rules and regulations to authorize possession of electronic devices in school while still ensuring the presence of these devices does not disrupt the educational environment or distract, harass, or threaten others.
2. Definition	Electronic devices are nondistrict-owned devices, including wireless or portable equipment, that can take photographs; record audio or video data; or store, transmit or receive messages or images. Electronic devices include, but shall not be limited to, radios, CD players, iPods, MP3 players, tablet computers, DVD players, handheld game consoles, Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs), cellular telephones, laptop computers, digital cameras, and digital readers, as well as any new technology developed with similar capabilities.
3. Authority SC 510 Pol. 815	The Board permits the use of electronic devices by students in accordance with the terms outlined in this and other applicable Board policy.
SC 1317.1	The Board prohibits possession of laser pointers and attachments and telephone paging devices/beepers by students in district buildings; on district property; on district buses and vehicles; and at school-sponsored activities.
Pol. 218	<p><u>Off-Campus Activities</u></p> <p>This policy shall also apply to student conduct that occurs off school property and would otherwise violate the Code of Student Conduct if any of the following circumstances exist:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The conduct occurs during the time the student is traveling to and from school or traveling to and from school-sponsored activities, whether or not via school district furnished transportation.</li> </ol>

<p>Pol. 122, 123</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. The student is a member of an extracurricular activity and has been notified that particular off-campus conduct could result in exclusion from such activities.</li> <li>3. Student expression or conduct materially and substantially disrupts the operations of the school, or the administration reasonably anticipates that the expression or conduct is likely to materially and substantially disrupt the operations of the school.</li> <li>4. The conduct has a direct nexus to attendance at school or a school-sponsored activity, for example, a transaction conducted outside of school pursuant to an agreement made in school, that would violate the Code of Student Conduct if conducted in school.</li> <li>5. The conduct involves the theft or vandalism of school property.</li> <li>6. There is otherwise a nexus between the proximity or timing of the conduct in relation to the student's attendance at school or school-sponsored activities.</li> </ol>
<p>4. Delegation of Responsibility</p>	<p>The Superintendent or designee shall annually notify students, parents/guardians and employees about the Board's electronic device policy.</p> <p>The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative regulations to implement this policy.</p>
<p>5. Guidelines</p>	<p>The Board authorizes the building principal, district administration, or designated professional staff member to define the educational value and permit or place restrictions on the possession or use of any electronic device by students.</p> <p>Nondistrict-owned electronic devices may not be connected to the district's wired network.</p> <p>The district shall not be liable for the loss, theft, damage, or misuse of any electronic device brought to school, possessed/used during the school day, in/on district buildings, district property, district vehicles or contracted vehicles, during transport to and from school, while attending school-sponsored activities during the school day, and/or any and all school-sponsored activities generally. The district will provide no technical support, troubleshooting, or repair for electronic devices.</p> <p>The district shall not assume any cost incurred for the use of electronic devices.</p> <p>Electronic devices shall not be used in locker rooms, in bathrooms, in health suites, and in other changing areas at any time for purposes of video, imaging, or audio recording.</p>

<p>Pol. 218, 226, 233</p>	<p>The Board prohibits the taking, storing, disseminating, transferring, viewing, or sharing of obscene, pornographic, lewd, or otherwise illegal images or photographs, whether by electronic data transfer or other means, including but not limited to, texting and emailing.</p> <p>Because such violations may constitute a crime under local, state, and/or federal law, the district may report such conduct to local, state, and/or federal law enforcement agencies.</p> <p>Violations of this policy by a student shall result in disciplinary action and may result in confiscation of the electronic device.</p> <p>Use of electronic devices pursuant to this policy is a privilege, not a right, unless otherwise required by the exceptions stated in this policy. Abuse of this policy will result in discontinuation of electronic device privileges, as determined by the administration.</p> <p><u>Exceptions</u></p> <p>The building administrator may grant approval for possession and use of an electronic device by a student for the following reasons:</p>
<p>Pol. 103.1, 113, 114</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Health, safety or emergency reasons.</li> <li>2. An individualized education program (IEP), a Gifted Individualized Education Plan (GIEP), or a Section 504 Service Agreement.</li> <li>3. Classroom or instructional-related activities.</li> <li>4. Other reasons determined appropriate by the building administrator.</li> </ol>
<p>SC 1317.1</p>	<p>The building administrator may grant approval for possession and use of a telephone paging device/beeper by a student for the following reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Student is a member of a volunteer fire company, ambulance or rescue squad.</li> <li>2. Student has a need due to the medical condition of an immediate family member.</li> <li>3. Other reasons determined appropriate by the building administrator.</li> </ol>

References:

School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 510, 1317.1

Board Policy – 000, 103.1, 113, 114, 122, 123, 218, 226, 233, 815