

USE OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES IN SCHOOL

Cell Phones and Portable Digital Media Devices - (paging devices/beepers, personal digital assistants (PDAs), Smart Phones, two-way radios and other devices designed to receive and/or send an electronic signal).

The Todd County School District, as part of a commitment to upholding academic integrity and providing a safe learning environment free from distraction, limits student's use of cellular phones and portable digital media devices.

Students may possess cellular phones and portable digital media devices on school property, while in school-owned or school-operated vehicles and while students are attending or engaged in school-sponsored activities, subject to limitations of this and other policies and regulations of the district.

Unless specific permission is granted by school personnel, cellular phones and portable digital media devices are:

1. To remain powered-off and inoperable during class time, or when their use is otherwise prohibited by school personnel; and students may use cell phones before school, after school, going to and from school in district transportation, as well as during designated lunch periods.
2. To be stored in a student's locker or car during the regular school day. Students found to have violated this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action, which may include confiscation of the cellular phone or portable digital media device.

The standard protocol at the schools shall be:

- a. Upon the first offense, student will give the cell phone/ECD to administration. Students may pick up the phone/ECD from the office as they are exiting the building for the day.
- b. Upon all subsequent offenses during the school year, an adult family member must pick up the phone from school.
- c. The use of cellular telephones/ECDs that contain built-in cameras is prohibited, at all times, in locker rooms, bathrooms and/or locations in which inappropriate, improper or privacy violating images may be obtained.

- d. Students may not use cellular telephones/ECDs on school property or at a school-sponsored activity to access and/or view Internet sites that are otherwise blocked to students at school or take part in any activity prohibited in the Todd County School District's Acceptable Use Policy
- web

This policy shall not be interpreted to justify unreasonable searches of cellular phones or other digital media devices by school personnel. Any search of a student's cellular phone or portable digital media device by school personnel shall be:

1. Justified at its inception and based on a reasonable suspicion that the search would reveal evidence of a material violation of this policy, or based on a reasonable suspicion that the search would reveal evidence of a material violation of other school district policy;
2. Reasonably related to its objectives and not excessively intrusive in light of the nature of the infraction; and
3. Conducted in accordance with district policy and in the presence of a student's parent or guardian.

The district assumes no responsibility for loss, damage or theft of cellular phones and digital media devices, whether in the possession of students, on school property or if confiscated by school personnel pursuant to this policy.

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