

PROPOSED POLICY

Policy JICJ

Policy JICJ

Issued 8/16

Purpose: To establish the basic rules for the board's permission of personal electronic devices or district-owned devices on school grounds, in the school buildings, on buses, or during any other time they are under the direct administrative jurisdiction of the school, whether on or off the school grounds.

Personal Electronic Device

For purposes of this policy, "personal electronic device" includes, but is not limited to, cell phones, pagers, **smart watches**, gaming devices, or other devices that emit an audible signal, vibrate, display a message, display or record an image, or otherwise summon or deliver a communication to the possessor. ~~Students may possess a personal electronic device in school as long as it is used during authorized times and is not disruptive to the educational environment, which will be determined by the principal at each school.~~ Personal electronic devices are not permitted to be on or visible ~~in locker rooms and restrooms.~~ **during the school day and should be stored in lockers or backpacks while on campus between student arrival and dismissal bell.**

Unauthorized use of a personal electronic device may include, but is not limited to, taking pictures or recording without permission, cheating, harassment or bullying, use during any emergency drill, use during unauthorized times, or use for unlawful activities.

A student in possession of a personal electronic device in conflict with this policy will be subject to discipline as provided under administrative rule JICJ-R.

Violations of this policy will result in the confiscation of the device and all its components. Students are not allowed to erase the history or remove the battery, SIM card or any other part of the device before giving it to the school official. Students will receive the phones at the end of the ~~class period or school day.~~

The district is not responsible for the loss or damage of any personal electronic device brought on school grounds, in the school buildings, on buses, or during any other time they are under the direct administrative jurisdiction of the school, whether on or off the school grounds.

District-Owned Device

The district may provide students with electronic devices including, but not limited to, tablets or laptop computers in an effort to enhance students' learning experience. The district will determine the device that best suits the needs of the students.

Students will have no expectation of privacy with respect to any information contained on these devices. District-owned devices may contain tracking software to recover lost or stolen devices. Students are not allowed to erase the history or remove the battery, SIM card, or any other part of the device. Students will abide by the district's acceptable use policy (IJNDB) established for the use of technology resources. Students who violate the acceptable use policy or do not follow instructions for the proper use of the device on school grounds, in the school buildings, on buses, or during any other time they are under the direct administrative jurisdiction of the school, whether on or off the school grounds, will be subject to discipline according to administrative rule JICJ-R.

Students are responsible for the care of the district-owned device. Parents/Legal guardians will cover the cost of damage to or loss of the device. Students will return the device at the end of the school year or when directed by an administrator.

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Adopted 7/28/03; Revised 6/28/10, 6/25/12, 8/27/12, 5/23/16, 8/22/16

Legal references:

S.C. Code, 1976, as amended:

[Section 59-63-280](#) - Possession of paging devices by public school students; mobile telephones included; adoption of policies.

York 3/Rock Hill School District

MODEL POLICY

Policy JICJ

POSSESSION/USE OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES IN SCHOOL

Code **JICJ** Issued **MODEL**

The board believes electronic communication devices may be useful tools for students in the educational environment and can play a vital communication role during emergency situations. However, use of electronic communication devices in school situations must be regulated to ensure that the use of such devices does not disrupt or interfere with the educational process or school operations.

For purposes of this policy, *electronic communication devices* are defined as any telecommunications device (including, but not limited to, wearable technology, such as smart watches that have the capability to interact with wireless technology; cell phones; laptops; tablets; mp3 players; and other current and future similarly utilized devices) that emits an audible signal; vibrates; displays a message; records; live streams; or otherwise summons or delivers a communication to the possessor.

The district is not responsible for loss, theft, or destruction of electronic communication devices brought onto school or district property or in a student's possession while he/she is attending district or school-sponsored activities or events.

Students are responsible for conducting themselves in a manner that respects the rights of others. Misuse of any electronic communication device, whether district or student owned, that interferes with a positive, orderly classroom environment or does not respect the rights of others is expressly forbidden.

Electronic devices may not be used in locker rooms, bathrooms, or other locations where the presence of such devices poses an unreasonable risk to the safety, welfare, or privacy of others as determined by the building principal. If the building principal believes a student's possession or use of an electronic communication device may involve a violation of the law, the principal may also refer the matter to law enforcement.

Students may not use electronic devices to:

- Engage in, promote, or facilitate any conduct that otherwise violates board policy, school rules, and/or the Code of Conduct
- Disrupt the educational environment or school-sponsored extracurricular activities or events
- Impair or interfere with the district or school operations
- Photograph or record the activities of other students, staff members, volunteers, visitors, or any other individual on district property without the express permission of a district staff member

A teacher may grant permission for the use of electronic communication devices to assist with instruction in his/her classroom. The principal or his/her designee may also grant a student permission to use such a device at his/her discretion.

Use of an electronic communication device is permitted to the extent it is approved in a student's individualized education program (IEP); is utilized in conjunction with membership in a voluntary firefighting or emergency medical service organization; or is needed in an emergency that threatens the safety of students, staff, or other individuals.

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In exchange for the privilege of bringing electronic communication devices into the educational environment, each student and his/her parent/legal guardian agrees to voluntarily forfeit the electronic communication device (*option: for the remainder of the day; until it is picked up by a parent/legal guardian, etc.*) if the student is found to be in violation of this policy. The student is also subject to discipline in accordance with the Code of Conduct.

Cf. JICDA

Adopted ^

Legal References:

- A. S.C. Code of Laws, 1976, as amended:
 - 1. Section 59-63-280 - Requires board to adopt a policy on student use of electronic devices.

CURRENT POLICY

Policy JICJ

Policy JICJ Possession/Use of Personal Electronic Devices or District-Owned Devices

Issued 8/16

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