

USE OF PERSONAL DIGITAL DEVICES (PDD)

Background

Openness to new and future technologies creates opportunities for many constructive and positive uses that can amplify student learning. Further, regulated use of personal digital devices in the school and community contributes to the safety and security of students and staff. Unregulated use of such devices may pose a risk to personal safety; may disrupt instruction; may invade personal privacy; and may compromise academic integrity.

Definition:

Personal digital devices include, but not are restricted to mobile phones, iPads, tablets, laptops, music players, Virtual Reality devices and portable game controllers.

Procedures

1. PDDs are not to be operated during regularly scheduled instructional time, or during any school sponsored activity, such as an assembly or talk by a guest speaker, unless such use facilitates the learning activity as permitted by the teacher.
 - 1.1 PDDs are to be stored in silent mode and only accessed with the permission of the teacher.
2. PDDs are not to be taken into test or examination settings, unless students have been given permission to do so.
3. PDDs are not to be used in settings such as change rooms, washrooms or private counseling rooms that have the potential to violate a person's reasonable expectation of privacy.
4. No images or audio/video recording of students or staff in schools or at associated facilities or activities are to be taken, shared or uploaded to school, public or private websites without the written consent of the person or persons and/or their parents, in the photograph or video.
5. Students who bring PDDs to the school are expected to comply with all parts of Administrative Procedure 350 – Student Responsibilities and Rights as well as the District Code of Conduct and individual school Codes of Conduct. Students who refuse to comply with the District's procedures for use of PDDs in the school setting may be subject to disciplinary measures detailed in the school's rules, as well as the steps outlined in Administrative Procedure 355 – Student Suspensions.
 - 5.1 Principals will use progressive discipline reflective of the age and maturity of the student, any special needs, and the severity and frequency of the unacceptable conduct.

6. Principals, in consultation with staff and appropriate stakeholders, are to formulate and implement specific procedures at each school site.
7. PDDs are valuable electronic devices. The security and storage of these items is the sole responsibility of the owner/user. The District assumes no responsibility for the safety, security, loss, repair or replacement of PDDs.
 - 7.1 PDDs which are taken temporarily from students by teachers or administrators must be securely stored.

Reference: Sections 6, 8, 17, 20, 22, 65, 85 School Act
School Regulation 265/89

Adopted: January 21, 2009
Revised: August 19, 2019