

Board Policy JCDAF: Use of Electronic Devices by Students

Status: DRAFT

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The Carroll County Board of Education is of the opinion that all students will achieve greater academic success in an educational setting devoid of distractions caused by the use of personal electronic devices. The Carroll County Board of Education intends to promote a distraction-free learning environment, which means a learning environment where access to personal electronic devices is restricted to minimize distractions, improve academic outcomes, and increase meaningful interactions and focused learning experiences. This policy outlines the access and use of personal electronic devices for students in pre-kindergarten through eighth grade while on school premises during school hours.

Students in grades PK-8 are not permitted to access personal electronic devices while on school premises during school hours, including but not limited to cell phones, smartwatches, tablets, e-readers, headphones, earbuds, and other devices with functionalities such as wireless communication, internet access, messaging, video recording, gaming, social media access, or data transmission during school hours. Any student found in violation of this policy and/or its procedures during the school day shall be subject to progressive discipline consequences as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct.

This policy applies to students in grades PK-8 on school premises, during school hours. School activities such as trips, athletic events, and extracurricular activities may be used in accordance with the appropriate use guidelines in the Student Code of Conduct. A student whose Individualized Education Plan (IEP), Section 504 Plan, or medical plan explicitly mandates the use of a personal electronic device shall be permitted access to the device as necessary to fulfill the requirements of the respective program or plan. Parents wishing to reach their child during school hours should contact the front office.

The district or individual schools within the district shall not assume any responsibility or liability for the theft, loss, or damage to a personal electronic device.
