

Policy 3265: Student-Owned Electronic Communication Devices 

Status: DRAFT

Original Adopted Date: Pending

SECTION 1. USE OF STUDENT-OWNED ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES

1.1 Students, with the permission of their parent(s)/guardian(s), or the student themselves, if over 18 years of age, may be in possession of personal electronic devices such as smartphones or cellular telephones, on school property. Access to the device is a privilege and not a right. The devices shall not be used in a manner that disrupts the educational process, including but not limited to, posing a threat to academic integrity or violating confidentiality or privacy rights of another individual. Unless an emergency situation exists that involves imminent physical danger, use of devices shall be limited to:

High School:

- The period before classes begin in the morning;
- During the student's lunch period; and
- After the student's last class in the afternoon.

Middle School:

- Before the student has entered the building in the morning; and
- After the student has left the building in the afternoon.

Elementary School:

- After the student has left the school property in the afternoon or with the permission of a teacher or other staff member.

1.2 During class time, electronic devices must be stored with the volume turned down or silenced. Smartwatches must also be silenced. Class time includes off-campus field trips.

1.3 Devices should not be used to communicate or relay messages during school hours. Parents/guardians who need to contact their child during school hours must direct all communications through the school's main office.

1.4 Students found to be using any electronic communications device to send or receive personal messages, data, or information in any way that would contribute to or constitute cheating on any student assessment, project, or assignment shall be subject to discipline and the device shall be confiscated and not returned until a parent conference has been held.

1.5 Students are responsible for safeguarding devices they bring to school. The District shall not be responsible for loss, theft, damage, or destruction of student-owned devices brought onto school property.

1.6 Students shall comply with any additional rules developed by the school concerning appropriate use of telecommunication or other electronic devices. Students violating the provisions of this policy are subject to disciplinary action, including losing the privilege of bringing the device onto school property, detention, suspension, or expulsion. In addition, an administrator will confiscate the devices, which shall only be returned to the student's parent(s)/guardian(s). Where appropriate, law enforcement may be contacted.

1.7 The restrictions related to electronic communication devices contained in this policy may not apply to students with disabilities whose Individualized Education Program (IEP), Section 504 Plan or health plan indicates that the use of a personal electronic device is required.

1.8 Other personal electronic devices, especially those primarily for entertainment purposes, should not be brought to school. This includes gaming systems, laptops, tablets, e-readers, wireless headphones, and other electronic devices or gadgets.

1.8.1 With teacher permission, students may bring personal audio devices (headphones) to use on school devices.

SECTION 2. USE OF CAMERAS ON ELECTRONIC DEVICES

2.1 All individuals in the Caldwell School District are entitled to a reasonable expectation of privacy. The use of cameras on any type of electronic device is strictly prohibited in locker rooms, restrooms, and classrooms, unless a certified District employee authorizes the student to do otherwise, for a specific school-related purpose.

2.2 The use of cameras may be allowed in areas where there is no expectation of privacy, such as a crowded lunchroom, parking lot, or school-sponsored event.

2.3 Photographs, films, and other recordings of individuals are considered personal information and as such are protected by privacy law in the same way as other personal information. Therefore, students must not take, use, share or publish images of others without consent.

2.4 The use of cameras on any type of electronic device for the purpose of recording and distributing or sharing any act of violence, vandalism, or sexual congress is strictly prohibited and subject to disciplinary action and loss of privilege. In addition, an administrator will confiscate the devices, which shall only be returned to the student's parent(s)/guardian(s). Where appropriate, law enforcement authorities may be contacted and the student's device may be seized as evidence.

3265F Student-Owned Electronic Communication Device Permission Form

Supporting Documents



[3265F Student-Owned Electronic Communication Device Permission Form](#)

Cross References

3270

3270P-Procedure(1)

3330

3563

Description

[District Provided Access to Electronic Information, Services and Networks](#)

[Acceptable Use of Electronic Networks](#)

[Student Discipline](#)

[Student Tracking Safety Devices](#)