

PERSONAL COMMUNICATION DEVICES

As used in this policy, “personal communication device (PCD) includes: Personal communication devices ("PCDs") include computers, laptops, tablets, e-readers, cellular or mobile phones, smartphones, and/or other web-enabled devices of any type.

Students may possess PCDs in Western Wayne Schools, on school property, during before or after school activities (e.g., extra-curricular activities), or at school-related functions. However, use of PCDs may not create a distraction, disruption, or otherwise interfere with the educational environment. When directed by the administrator or sponsor, PCDs shall be powered completely off (not just placed into vibrate or silent mode) and stored out of sight.

Students are prohibited from using PCDs to capture, record or transmit the words (i.e. audio) and/or images (i.e., pictures/video) of any student, staff member or other person in the school or while attending a school-related activity, without the express prior notice and explicit consent for the capture, recording or transmission of such words or images. Using a PCD to take or transmit audio and/or pictures/video of an individual without his/her consent is considered an invasion of privacy and is not permitted, unless authorized by the building principal. Students who violate this provision and/or use a PCD to violate the privacy rights of another person will have their PCD confiscated.

PCDs, including but not limited to those with cameras, may not be possessed, activated or utilized at any time in any school situation where a reasonable expectation of personal privacy exists. These locations and circumstances include, but are not limited to locker rooms, shower facilities, restrooms, and any other areas where students or others may change clothes or be in any stage or degree of disrobing or changing clothes. The building principal has authority to make determinations as to other specific locations and situations where use of a PCD is absolutely prohibited.

Students shall have no expectation of confidentiality with respect to their use of PCDs on school premises/property.

Students are prohibited from using a PCD in any way that reasonably might create in the mind of another person an impression of being threatened, humiliated, harassed, embarrassed or intimidated.

Students also are prohibited from using a PCD to capture, record, and/or transmit test information or any other information in a manner constituting fraud, theft, cheating, or academic dishonesty. Likewise, students are prohibited from using PCDs to receive such information.

Possession of a PCD by a student is a privilege that may be forfeited by any student who fails to abide by the terms of this policy, or otherwise engages in misuse of this privilege.

Violations of this policy may result in disciplinary action and/or confiscation of the PCD. The building principal also will refer the matter to law enforcement or child protection services if the violation involves a suspected illegal activity (e.g., child pornography). Discipline will be

imposed on an escalating scale ranging from a warning to an expulsion based on the number of previous violations and/or the nature of or circumstances surrounding a particular violation.

A person who discovers a student using a PCD in violation of this policy is required to report the violation to the building principal.

Students are personally and solely responsible for the care and security of their PCDs. The Board assumes no responsibility for theft, loss, damage, or vandalism to PCDs brought onto its property, or the unauthorized use of such devices.

Parents/Guardians are advised that the best way to get in touch with their child during the school day is by calling the school office.

Western Wayne Schools, Wayne County, Indiana

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