



ELECTRONIC DEVICES, POLICY 237—PROPOSED REVISION

(Items in Red have been/added revised)

Authority

The Board prohibits **use** by students of any Personal Electronic device, (PED), including but not limited to cellular phones, Smartwatches, personal iPads and tablets, -that provides for a wireless, unfiltered connection to the Internet at any time throughout the school day. Once in the building, all PEDs are to remain off and stored in students' lockers throughout the school day. Students are not permitted to turn PED's on throughout the day, except with the Building Principal's authority to do so. Other than exceptions listed further in this policy, laptop computers, school issued tablets and other devices may be used in classrooms ONLY at the discretion of individual classroom teachers. Use of these devices in common areas is a privilege and must be done responsibly within the guidelines set forth in this policy and Policy 815, Acceptable use of Internet, Computers and Network Resources, for acceptable Internet use. The non-educational use of any technological resource during the school day is prohibited and will result in loss of privileges.

Additionally, the Board prohibits **possession** of laser pointers and attachments by students on school property, on buses and other vehicles provided by the District, and at school-sponsored activities.[1]

The District shall not be liable for the loss, damage or misuse of any electronic device brought to school by a student.

Additionally the Board prohibits the use by students of any portable device for the purpose of capturing, storing and/or transmitting information, including text, audio, or video data, unless expressly authorized by the building administrator or teacher. Cellular telephones and other PED's that have the capability of taking photographs or recording audio or video data, shall not be used for such purposes while on District property, on buses or other vehicles provided by the District, or while a student is engaged in school sponsored activities, unless expressly authorized in advance by the Building Principal or Teacher.

Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent or designee shall annually notify students, parents/guardians and staff about the District's electronic device policy by publishing such policy in the student handbook, newsletters, posted notices, and other efficient methods.

Guidelines

Violations of this policy by a student shall result in disciplinary action and will result in confiscation of the electronic device for an extended period of time as further described below. - If a violation of this policy causes/creates a violation of any other East Allegheny Policies, additional consequences may result. The District reserves the right to monitor, inspect, copy, and review an electronic device when administration has a reasonable suspicion that a violation has occurred.[3][4]

The District reserves the right to monitor, inspect, copy and review a personally owned device or file when administration has a reasonable suspicion that a violation has occurred. Failure to abide by these guidelines will result in discipline as per school policy (Policy #218 – Minor Offenses – Possession of Non-Instructional Items).

Use of Personal Electronic Devices (PDE) is not permitted at any time during the school day and must be stored in students' lockers throughout the day.

Administration/Principals/Teachers have the discretion as to where, when and if any electronic device may be used. Violations of this policy will result in the consequences listed below.

	<u>District Consequences for violation of this policy will have their phone confiscated and turned into the Building Principal. Penalties for phone confiscation are as follows:</u>
1st Offense	<u>Phone will be turned into Building Principal prior to homeroom for 3 consecutive days and will be returned to the student after final period/class.</u>
2nd Offense	<u>Phone will be turned into Building Principal prior to homeroom for 5 consecutive days and will be returned to the student after final period/class.</u>
3rd Offense	<u>Parent/Guardian will be required to pick up the phone from the Administration.</u>

*It is the student's responsibility to turn phone into the Building Principal upon entry of building. Failure to comply with policy will result in parent pickup.

***Headphones are not permitted in the East Allegheny JSHS or Logan Elementary buildings except for educational purposes ONLY at the discretion**

of individual the teacher. The wearing of headphones/earphones worn around the neck, ears, or head area will constitute a violation of this school rule. All electronic devices are banned from East Allegheny High School per policy.

Exceptions

With prior administrative approval, the electronic devices prohibition shall not apply in the following cases:[1]

1. A student who is a member of a volunteer fire company, ambulance or rescue squad.
2. A student who has a need for such a device due to the medical condition of an immediate family member.
3. Other reasons determined appropriate by the Building Principal such as a student planning to attend an after school-sponsored activity.

INAPPROPRIATE PHOTOS/VIDEOS

The use of the electronic device to record a video or take a picture of anyone is prohibited in the school, on the bus or at the bus stop as well as the time it takes for a student to walk to and from their home to the bus stop. The District reserves the right to monitor, inspect, copy, and review a personally owned device or file when administration has a reasonable suspicion that a violation has occurred. Failure to abide by these guidelines will result in discipline as per school policy.

Students who use a camera or cell phone to take inappropriate photos or videos of another student, teacher, administrator, support staff member, security personnel or any other persons with or without that person's knowledge and/or distribute those photos to others will receive 10 days O.S.S., notification to proper authorities and referral to the Superintendent for expulsion procedures. (School Board Code 218)

TEXT MESSAGING - Students who are found to be using cell phones to text message threats or obscene material to other students during the school day will be suspended for five (5) days and the police will be notified.

Cellular telephones that have the capability to take photographs or to record audio or video shall not be used for such purposes while on district property or while a student is engaged in school-sponsored activities, unless expressly authorized in advance by the building principal or designee.

Laptop computers and personal digital assistants (PDAs) brought to school shall be restricted to classroom or instructional-related activities. Students shall comply with the guidelines set by the classroom teacher or school officials for the educational use of laptop computers and PDAs.

Exceptions to the prohibitions set forth in this policy may be made for health, safety or emergency reasons with prior approval of the building principal or designee, or when use is provided for in a student's individualized education program (IEP).[5]