

GREENSBURG SALEM SCHOOL DISTRICT

PUPILS

200 ELECTRONIC DEVICES

CODE 237

The possession of laser pointer/lights, shock devices, and attachments is prohibited by students on school property, on buses and other vehicles provided by the District, and at school-sponsored activities.

The use of personal communication devices, including cell phones and telephone paging devices/beeper devices, by students during the school day in District buildings, on District property and while students are attending school-sponsored events is prohibited **unless authorized by a staff member for educational purposes.**

The use of cellular phones or other electronic devices to take and transmit photographs and/or to record video or audio is prohibited in school buildings during the school day unless specifically authorized by the classroom teacher or building administrator for a relevant classroom or instructional-related activity. The use of these same capacities in any inappropriate manner is prohibited on District property and while students are engaged in school-sponsored activities.

Laptop computers and personal electronic devices (ipods, iphones, smartphones, ipads, e-readers, etc.) may be used at specific times for classroom or instructional-related activities only, at the discretion of the classroom teacher or school administrator(s). Students shall comply with the guidelines established for classroom use by the teacher or administrator for instructional activities and recognize that acceptable use may vary by classroom.

The connection of any electronic device that provides for wireless unfiltered access to the Internet through a private network or purchased data plan is prohibited. If students are provided with authorization by a teacher or administrator to use an electronic device capable of connecting to the Internet, that device must use the school's Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) wireless network with filtered Internet access. The connection to any other unauthorized wireless network is prohibited. Connectivity to the BYOD wireless network is a privilege not a right and is not guaranteed.

Users connecting to the BYOD wireless network and/or the Internet are responsible for following all guidelines established in the District's Technology Resources and Acceptable Use Policy 815. The District shall not be liable for the loss, damage or misuse of any electronic device brought to school by a student.

A building-level administrator may make exceptions to this policy on a specific case basis where the use of the prohibited devices is part of an approved classroom educational activity.

Violations of this policy by a student shall result in disciplinary action as articulated in the Handbook for Students and Parents published by each District building and approved by the Board of Education. Violation may result in confiscation of the electronic device.

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 his/her designee, or when use is provided for in a student's individualized education program (IEP).

With prior administrative approval, the telephone paging device/beeper prohibition shall not apply in the following cases:

- for a student who is a member of a volunteer fire company, rescue squad or ambulance squad
- for a student with a verified need for such a device due to a medical condition of an immediate family member
- for a student who has another valid need as determined viable by the building principal or his/her designee

Parental/guardian contact with students during the school day shall be through the Main Office in each school building.

The Superintendent or his/her 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.

Board Policy 237 Electronic Devices Policy incorporates thereby replaces/renumbers old Board Policy 400.47 Electronic Devices Policy

References:

Pennsylvania School Code – 24 P.S. Sections 510, 1317.1

Pennsylvania Wiretapping and Electronic Surveillance Act – 18 Pa. C.S.A. Section 5703

Board Policy – 000, 113, 122, 123, 218, 226, 233, 815

Policy Adopted: June 27, 2007
Revised: August 8, 2012
Revised: May 20, 2015

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ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINES FOR POLICY 237 ELECTRONIC DEVICES

The following guidelines apply with respect to any and all personal electronic devices confiscated by teachers and/or administrators under the provisions articulated in the District's Handbooks for Students and Parents pertaining to student violations of Board Policy 237 – Electronic Devices.

When the confiscated device is turned off or inactive, the individual confiscating the device will not activate or access the device unless valid reasonable suspicion exists that the contents of the device contains information pertaining to a violation of District policies or the Laws of the Commonwealth. The standard for accessing the contents of the electronic device is the same as is required for searching a student's locker, backpack, vehicle or asking the students to reveal the contents of his/her purse, pockets, shoes, etc. In the event that the electronic device is confiscated by a faculty member other than an administrator and the confiscating individual believes that reasonable suspicion exists, that individual will inform an administrator of the facts and the administrator will determine the validity of the suspicion and proceed with accessing the device if warranted and justified.

When the confiscated device is turned on or activated, the individual confiscating the device may read/view any information that is readily visible on the device at the time of confiscation. Should that material generate reasonable suspicion, the administrator may proceed as outlined above. If that information does not create a reasonable suspicion, the device should be deactivated.