

Administrative Procedure 145

USE OF PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES (PEDS)

Background

The District recognizes the capacity within particular new and future technologies, and their educated use, to create opportunities for many constructive and positive applications that can aid the instructional process. Further, some regulated use of personal electronic devices in the school and community may contribute to the safety and security of students and staff. Unregulated use of such devices may pose a risk to personal safety; may disrupt instruction; may invade personal privacy and may compromise academic integrity.

Definition

Personal Electronic Devices referred to in this section include, but are not limited to, cell phones; video/camera cell phones; PDAs (Personal Digital Assistants) such as Palm Pilots; wireless PDA/telecommunications hybrid devices such as the Blackberry; pagers, any camera or video camera, digital and conventional sound recording devices (e.g. digital voice recorders, MP3 recorders, Dictaphones, etc.); personal entertainment devices such as CD/MP3 players and portable video game systems; any form of listening device that may be used for eavesdropping.

As similar devices with image taking and communications capabilities are developed and become available, they may be added to the definition.

Procedures

1. Without the permission of the administrator / teacher, Personal Electronic Devices (PEDs) are not to be operated during regularly scheduled instructional time, or during any school sponsored activity such as an assembly or talk by a guest speaker.
 - 1.1 PEDs are to be stored in silent mode during instructional and school sponsored activities.
 - 1.2 PEDs are not taken into test or examination settings unless students have been given permission to do so by the teacher administering the test or exam.
 - 1.3 PEDs are not to be used in settings such as change rooms, washrooms, private counseling rooms, that have the potential to violate a person's reasonable expectation of privacy.
 - 1.4 Students who bring PEDs to the school are expected to comply with all parts of Administrative Procedure 350 – Student Code of Conduct and Discipline. Students who consistently refuse to comply with the District's procedures for use of PEDs in the school setting may be subject to disciplinary measures detailed in the school's rules, as well as the steps outlined in Administrative Procedure 350.
 - 1.5 In the event of an emergency such as a lockdown or evacuation, the Principal will develop and inform the school community of the acceptable use of PEDs in that emergency situation. (Current lockdown procedures request no cell

phones be utilized until an “all clear” is given by those officials / administrators in charge.)

- 1.6 PEDs are valuable electronic devices. The security and storage of these items is the sole responsibility of the owner/user. The District assumes no responsibility for the safety, security, loss, repair or replacement of PEDs.

Legal Reference: Sections 6, 20, 22, 65, 85 School Act