

Policy JICJ Use of Personal Communication Devices

Issued 3/23

Purpose: To establish the basic structure for student possession/use of personal communication devices in the schools of the district.

For purposes of this policy, *personal communication devices* include, but are not limited to, cellular telephones, pagers, gaming devices, and other devices that emit an audible signal; vibrate; display a message; display or record an image; or otherwise summon or deliver a communication to the possessor.

Middle and high school students may possess personal communication devices in school as follows:

- The devices remain silent and are not visible or in use during instructional time; however, teachers may allow the instructional use of personal communication devices at their discretion.
- Personal communication devices are not permitted to be used in locker rooms, restrooms, or other personal spaces.
- Students may use their personal communication devices before and after school, during class changes, and during their assigned lunch as long as the use does not disrupt the school environment.

Elementary school students may possess personal communication devices as long as the devices remain off and are not visible during the school day. Elementary school students are not permitted to use personal communication devices during the school day; however, teachers may allow the instructional use of personal communication devices at their discretion.

Students should understand that possession of the above permitted devices could pose a risk of loss or theft. The district strongly recommends that students properly label their devices and take steps to keep them safe. The school/district will not be liable for lost or damaged devices.

The school principal reserves the right to limit and/or confiscate personal communication devices if the use of these devices is causing a disruption to the school.

A person who finds a student in violation of this policy must report the student to the school principal or his/her designee. Upon notification, the principal or his/her designee will follow these procedures:

Number of offense(s)	Consequence(s)
<u>1st violation</u>	Student conference held.
<u>2nd violation</u>	Student / Parent conference held.
<u>3rd violation</u>	Student / Parent conference held. Student receives detention.
<u>Additional violations</u>	Student / Parent conference held. Student receives in-school or out-of-school suspension. Continued violations may result in a recommendation for expulsion.

Violations of the laws of the United States or of the state of South Carolina may subject students to criminal prosecution.

Adopted 2/19/85; Revised 6/19/90, 12/17/96, 7/21/98, 7/16/02, 7/19/11, 9/16/14, 7/19/16, 3/21/23

Legal References:

S.C. Code of Laws, 1976, as amended:

[Section 59-63-280](#) - Requires board to adopt a policy on student use of electronic devices.

Lexington District One Schools
