

USE OF PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES (PEDs)

Background

The Division recognizes that as technology evolves it can create additional opportunities for many constructive and positive uses that can aid in the instruction process. Regulated use of such devices may contribute to the safety and security of students and staff. However, unregulated use 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 PAD/telecommunications hybrid devices such as Blackberrys, Iphones, Ipads, pagers, any camera or video camera, digital and conventional sound recording devices (e.g. digital voice recorders, IPODS, Dictaphones, etc.) personal entertainment devices such as CD/MP3 players and miniature TVs; and any form of listening device that can 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. Personal Electronic Devices (PEDs) are not to be operated during regularly scheduled instructional time, or during a 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 to be taken into test or examination settings unless students have been given permission to do so by the teacher administering the exam or test.
 - 1.3 PEDs are not to be used in settings such as change rooms, washrooms, private counselling 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 Conduct. Students who consistently refuse to comply with the Division'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 Policy 355 - Student Discipline

- 1.5 The Director requires principals, in consultation with appropriate stakeholders (including the School Community Council), to formulate and implement procedures at the school site.
- 1.6 The Principal or designate may authorize the specific use of a PED during the school day.
- 1.7 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.
- 1.8 PEDs are valuable electronic devices. The security and storage of these items is the sole responsibility of the owner/user. The Division assumes no responsibility for the safety, security, loss, repair or replacement of PEDs.

Reference: Sections 85, 87, 108, 109 Education Act