

USE OF PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES (PEDs)

Background

Openness to new and future technologies and their educated use create opportunities for many constructive and positive uses that can aid the instructional process. Further, regulated use of some personal communication devices in the school and community may contribute to the safety and security of students and staff. However, unregulated use of such devices may pose a risk to personal safety, may disrupt instruction, may invade personal privacy, and may compromise academic integrity.

Procedures

1. 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, unless such use facilitates the learning activity as permitted by the teacher.
 - 1.1 Normally, PEDs are to be stored in silent mode during instructional and school sponsored activities.
2. PEDs are not to be taken into test or examination settings, unless students have been given permission to do so.
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.
4. Students who bring PEDs to the school are expected to comply with all parts of Administrative Procedure 146 – Responsible Use of Electronic Social Media and with Administrative Procedure 140 – Digital Technology. 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 355 – Student Suspensions
5. The consent form, Student Use of Personal Electronic Devices (Form 145-2), must be signed prior to the use of PEDs in the school.
6. Principals, in consultation with staff and appropriate stakeholders (including the parents' advisory councils), are to formulate and implement specific procedures at each school site.
7. In the event of an emergency, such as a lockdown or an evacuation, the Principal will develop and inform the school community of the acceptable use of PEDs in that emergency situation.

8. 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.
 - 8.1 PEDs which are taken temporarily from students by teachers or administrators must be securely stored.

*Reference: Sections 6, 8, 17, 20, 22, 65, 85 School Act
School Regulation 265/89*

SD No. 40 (New Westminster)

Adopted: May 30, 2017

Modification to this document is not permitted without prior written consent from SD No. 40 (New Westminster)