

Overview of Bill:

Senate Bill 142 requires schools to develop a policy to restrict the use of Personal Electronic Devices on school property during instructional hours. There are allowable exceptions to this requirement, outlined below. For the purposes of this policy, the term Personal Electronic Device as:

- Cellular phone
- Paging device / beeper
- Mobile telephone that offers advanced computing and internet accessibility
- Digital media player
- Portable game console
- Tablet, notebook, or laptop computer
- Digital camera
- Digital camera; audio or video recording device
- Wearable electronics (smart devices, headphones)
- Any device that can connect and transmit data through Bluetooth technology

Overview of Policy:

While cell phones and other electronic devices can be excellent resources, they are not conducive to the academic environment. In accordance with Senate Bill 142, upon entering the building, Personal Electronic Devices (defined above) must be turned off and stored away throughout the entire school day, including during lunch and passing periods. Failure to meet this expectation will result in a disciplinary consequence, including confiscation of the device. Exceptions to this requirement are outlined below.

The Schools for Advanced Studies provide students with access to laptop computers and a land line telephone during school hours. Laptops are reserved exclusively for academic use. Students will be monitored by staff or faculty members when using school laptops. Students may ask permission to use the school telephone to call parents/guardians during the school day. Students will be monitored by staff or faculty members when using school devices.

Faculty and staff members will confiscate any non-approved electronic devices belonging to students. The school is not liable for confiscated devices that are lost, damaged, or stolen. Parents/Guardians may be asked to meet with a school administrator to retrieve confiscated devices after the second offense. Continued violation of the guidelines for electronic devices may lead to additional disciplinary measures.

Students may use their devices during dismissal only to contact parents/guardians. Devices may not be used for other purposes during this time and must be turned off and stored before students proceed to class, Student Hours, or other school functions.



Personal Device Policy

Exceptions:

- Students with a documented medical need based on the directive of a qualified physician, may, upon approval from school administration, carry personal electronic devices necessary for health maintenance and monitoring. This exception will be documented in an IEP, 504, or Student Health Plan as appropriate.
- Students who participate in "off-campus" lunch, may utilize their Personal Electronic Devices only when they are off campus. When students return, they must turn off and store away said devices.
- During Emergency Situations, defined as "a serious, unexpected, and dangerous situation that requires immediate action," may utilize their Personal Electronic Devices for the purposes of response to or communication of the Emergency Situation.
- Students participating in "off campus," school sanctioned activities during the school day, may utilize their Personal Electronic Devices with the permission of the supervising school staff member, which will depend on the nature of the event or activity.
- ****The student is enrolled in an endorsed concurrent enrollment course at an institution of higher education, and the use of the personal electronic device is necessary in order to utilize two-factor authentication to access course work and resources for the endorsed concurrent enrollment course. The use of the personal electronic device shall be limited to the time necessary to complete the two-factor authentication process.**

***SAS does not offer such a course, but the provision is included as part of the law.*