

Northshore School District

BOARD POLICY

No. 3245

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STUDENTS

Student Use of Personal Mobile Devices

Aligned with our commitment to strengthening our community through excellence in education, Northshore School District (the district) takes seriously the research that shows that limiting the use of personal mobile devices during the school day can increase student engagement, lower rates of cyberbullying, and can contribute to improved student mental health and wellbeing.

To ensure that students benefit from limited access as prescribed above, it is the policy of the Northshore School District that student access to mobile communication devices will be limited throughout the school day.

- A. Students will not use personal mobile devices in a manner that undermines academic integrity, disrupts the learning environment, or violates the privacy rights of others, per relevant School Board Policy.
- B. No student shall be prohibited from possessing or using a personal mobile device that is determined by a licensed physician and documented by the school nurse to be essential for the health of the student and use of which is limited to purposes of health for the student.
- C. No student shall be prohibited from possessing or using a personal mobile device that is identified as an approved accommodation in a written 504 or Individualized Education Plan.
- D. The district will not be responsible for loss, theft or destruction of devices brought onto school property or to school-sponsored events. By bringing a cell phone or other electronic devices to school or school-sponsored events, the student and their parent/guardian consent to the search of the device when school officials have a reasonable suspicion, based on objective and articulable facts, that such a search will reveal a violation of the law or school rules. The scope of the search will be limited to the violation of which the student is accused. Content or images that violate state or federal laws will be referred to law enforcement.
- E. Students will not send, share, view, or possess pictures, text messages, emails, or other material depicting sexually explicit conduct, as defined in RCW 9.68A.011, in electronic or any other form on a cell phone or other electronic device, while the student is on school grounds, at school-sponsored events or on school buses or vehicles provided by the district.
- F. In the case of a safety emergency, district communication systems will take precedence over personal communications between students and families. To ensure that all students attend to important safety instructions and are engaged in safe procedures, use of personal devices will be discouraged.

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The superintendent is directed to create procedures for the implementation of these policies, including guidance for staff, students, and families.

Cross References:

WSSDA Policy 3245	Students and Telecommunication Devices
Board Policy 2022	Electronic Resources and Internet Safety
Board Policy 3200	Student Rights and Responsibilities
Board Policy 3207	Prohibition of Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying
Board Policy 3231	Searches of Students and Personal Property
Board Policy 3310	Student Discipline

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