

USE OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION AND RECORDING DEVICES (ECRD) (M)

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The Board of Education believes pupils and/or school staff members should not be subject to having a video or audio recording taken of any pupil(s) or school staff member(s) for any purpose without the consent of the pupil, the pupil's parent or guardian, and/or the school staff member. In addition to protecting the privacy rights of pupils and school staff members, the Board recognizes such recordings can be disruptive to the educational program. In addition, inappropriate recordings of educational material, pupil assessment instruments, and/or pupil assessment reviews can be used to compromise the integrity of the district's educational program or lead to academic dishonesty in the event such recordings are stored and/or transmitted to other pupils. Therefore, the Board of Education adopts this Policy regarding pupil use of electronic communication and recording devices.

“Electronic communication and recording device (ECRD)” includes any device with the capability to audio or video record or is capable of receiving or transmitting any type of communication between persons. An ECRD includes, but is not limited to, cameras, cellular and wireless telephones, pagers/beepers, laptop computers, electronic readers, personal digital assistants (PDAs), two-way radios, portable fax machines, video broadcasting devices, and any other device that allows a person to record and/or transmit, on either a real time or delayed basis, sound, video or still images, text, or other information.

A pupil is not permitted to record sound, video, still images or other information using an ECRD on school grounds during the school day or when the pupil is participating in a curricular or school-sponsored co-curricular activity. A pupil's personal ECRD may only be used on school grounds in an emergency situation or with the permission of a school staff member supervising the pupil in a curricular or school-sponsored co-curricular activity. Any audio and/or video recording by a pupil using their personal ECRD with permission of a school staff member while participating in a curricular or school-sponsored activity where other pupils or staff members are present shall require the permission for such recording from any other pupil and their parents or guardians and/or staff members whose voice or image is to be recorded. This Policy is not intended to prohibit appropriate use of electronic devices for authorized or approved official curricular or school-sponsored co-curricular activities such as yearbook photographs, staff member/teacher-directed and approved activities, classroom presentations, and athletic events and drama production filming. A pupil authorized or approved to use an ECRD may not use an ECRD to access internet sites or view information or internet-



USE OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION AND RECORDING DEVICES (ECDR) (M)

based material that is inappropriate or would be blocked from pupil access by the school district's acceptable use of computers and networks policy. Nothing in this Policy is intended to prevent a pupil from using their personal ECRD and recording school-sponsored co-curricular activities as a non-participant when the activity is open to the general public.

For the purposes of this policy, "school grounds" means and includes land, portions of land, structures, buildings, and structures that support these buildings, including, but not limited to, administrative buildings, kitchens, maintenance shops, and garages. "School grounds" also includes other facilities as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:26-1.2, playgrounds, and other recreational places owned by the local municipalities, private entities, or other individuals during those times when the school district has exclusive use of a portion of such land. It also includes use on school buses.

An ECRD used in violation of this Policy will be confiscated by a school staff member or Principal or designee and the pupil will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

Remotely Activating Paging Devices

Pupils are not permitted to bring or possess a remotely activating paging device on any school district property at any time regardless of whether school is in session or other persons are present, except as provided below

The Building Principal may grant permission for a pupil to bring or possess a remotely activating communication device on any school property only if the pupil provides a written request to the Building Principal.

The pupil must establish to the satisfaction of the Building Principal a reasonable basis for the possession of the device. The written request must include the purpose for the pupil possessing and/or bringing the device on school property and the date or dates in which the pupil requests to possess and/or bring the device on school property. The written request must also include the date in which the pupil will no longer need to bring and/or possess the device on school property.

The Building Principal, upon reviewing the request from the pupil, will make a determination. The determination will be in writing and if approved, written permission for the pupil to bring and/or possess a remotely activating paging device will be provided to the pupil. Permission will only be provided for an appropriate period of time.



USE OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION AND RECORDING DEVICES (ECDR) (M)

The pupil must submit a new request if the time in which permission is given to bring and/or possess a device expires. The pupil that is granted permission to possess and/or bring the device must be in the possession of the device at all times.

In the event a pupil violates this policy as to paging devices, the Building Principal, or designee, will confiscate the device, take appropriate disciplinary action and immediately notify the Superintendent and the local law enforcement agency.

Cellular Phones

Cellular phones may only be used as described in the District's Code of Conduct and school handbooks.

N.J.S.A. 2C:33-19
N.J.A.C. 6A:16-5.8

Adopted: 17 July 2006
Revised: 23 January 2012
Reviewed: 21 March 2016

