

USE OF PERSONAL ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT  
EXCLUDING COMPUTERS  
BY STUDENTS AND STAFF MEMBERS

Fairfield City Schools recognizes the need for students and staff members to have available to them the use of electronic equipment, such as a cell phone, MP3 player, etc., in certain circumstances. However, Fairfield City Schools also recognizes the need not to disrupt the educational environment through the use of such electronic equipment.

If a parent determines that his/her child in grades Pre K-6 needs to have access to a cell phone, the parent needs to complete the registration form and submit it to the principal's office prior to the child carrying such a device on school premises. No registration is necessary for grades 7-12 students.

Students in grades 5-12 may use cellular telephones and MP3 players for educational activities while on school property or while attending school-sponsored activities on or off school property, given teacher permission. If teacher permission is not given, these electronic devices must be turned off during school hours and kept out of sight in lockers, pockets, book bags, and/or purses. Students in grades 9-12 may use cellular phones or MP3 players during non-instructional times through the school day - between classes, lunch time, before and after school provided that such use is done quietly and with appropriate regard for the safety of the user and others.

Electronic devices on school buses are for personal use only. For safety, students must be able to hear the driver at all times. Any device used in a manner that compromises safety, invades privacy of others, or causes disruption to bus service, may result in disciplinary action. In the event of a bus emergency, the driver may direct appropriate use of electronic devices.

This policy is intended to increase safety by facilitating parent/student communications before and after school. It is the Board of Education's goal to work with parents to balance the need to have access to electronic communication devices and to maintain a proper learning environment. Violation of the student policy will result in temporary confiscation of the device and more serious disciplinary action if deemed necessary.

Certificated and other licensed staff members shall not utilize cell phones, telephones or other electronic equipment when such staff members are assigned instructional and/or student supervision responsibilities, except as required for the performance of their duties or emergency situations. Non-certificated and/or classified employees shall only utilize cell phones, telephones and other electronic equipment during lunch and breaks, except as necessary for the performance of their duties or emergency situations.

The District assumes no liability if these devices are broken, lost or stolen. Notices of this policy is to be posted in a central location in every school building and in the student and staff handbooks.

(Revised: May 15, 2008; revised: May 20, 2010)

CROSS REFS.: GBS, Use of Electronic Communications Equipment by Students and Staff Members  
Fairfield City School District, Fairfield, Ohio