

# ALLENTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: ELECTRONIC DEVICES

ADOPTED: 3/23/00

REVISED: 7/22/04, 6/21/07, 2/24/11

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## 237. ELECTRONIC DEVICES

### Section 1. Purpose

The possession of cellular phones, or other electronic devices by district employees, where supportive of the general welfare and the educational program of the school, is permitted. However, the possession of cellular phones, or other electronic communication devices by students, for reasons other than medical necessity, has been found to be disruptive to the educational process, and is generally prohibited in accordance with this policy.

### Section 2. Authority

The Board prohibits use of personal communication devices by students during the school day in district buildings and while students are attending school-sponsored activities during regular school hours. SC 510.

The Board prohibits possession of nonschool-owned laser pointers, or laser pointer attachments, by students on school grounds, at school-sponsored activities, and on buses or other vehicles provided by the district. Appropriate student use of these school-owned devices shall be permitted when their use is supervised by a school professional.

The district shall not be liable for the loss, damage or misuse of any electronic device brought to school by a student.

Exceptions to the prohibitions set forth in this policy may be made for health, safety or emergency reasons with prior approval of the building principal or designee, or when use is provided for a student's individualized education program (IEP). Policy 113, Exceptional Children – Special Education.

### Section 3. Delegation of Responsibility

The superintendent or designee shall annually notify students, parents/guardians and staff about the district's electronic device policy by publishing such policy in the student handbook, newsletter, posted notices, and/or any other methods.

### Section 4. Guidelines

Unauthorized electronic devices shall be confiscated and the student's parent/guardian shall be notified. If the device is suspected of being stolen, it shall be turned over to the police. Disciplinary consequences shall be in accordance with the district's policies and administrative

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regulations concerning student discipline. Policy 218, Student Discipline, Policy 233, Suspension and Expulsion.

### Telephone Pagers/Beepers

With prior administrative approval, the telephone paging device/beeper prohibition shall not apply in the following cases:

1. A student who has a need for such a device due to his/her medical condition; and,
2. Other reasons determined appropriate by the building principal.

### Cellular Telephones

Students may transport cellular phones to and from school, provided they adhere to the following requirements:

1. The cellular phone must be turned off upon entering any school building and remain off until the student leaves the school building; and,
2. The cellular phone must remain off during a school evacuation.

### Other Devices

Laptop computers, MP3 players and other digital music devices, personal digital assistants (PDAs) and other electronic devices brought to school shall not be utilized during the school day without prior permission from the administrator and/or classroom teacher. Student shall comply with the guidelines set by the classroom teacher or school officials for the educational use of laptop computers and PDAs. Connection to the Internet for school-related purposes via anything other than the district's network is a violation of this policy and district policy #815, Acceptable Use of Communication and Information (CIS) Systems. School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 510, 1317.1. Federal Wiretapping and Electronic Surveillance Act – 18 U.S.C. Sec. 2510. et seq. Pennsylvania Wiretapping and Electronic Surveillance Act – 18 Pa. C. S. A. Sec. 5703.