

Parent/Guardian Information on Electronic Devices in Schools 2025-26

What do I need to know?

- 1. Effective September 1, 2025, New York State Education <u>Law</u> prohibits students from using cell phones and other internet-enabled devices during the school day and on school grounds.
- 2. Our Board <u>Policy</u> 5695 prohibits the use of *both* internet and non-internet-enabled devices during the school day, on school grounds, with specific exceptions. Any electronic devices brought to school must be stored in lockers (or classroom cubbies at K-3) during the school day unless the student has an administrator-approved exception.
- 3. Administrative <u>regulations</u> for policy 5695 provide details on the implementation of the policy, including exceptions to the policy and consequences for violating the policy.
- 4. All students in grades 6-12 and their parents/guardians must sign a <u>Responsible Use</u>

 <u>Agreement</u> at the start of the school year. Completing this form allows students to bring electronic devices to school that must be stored as noted above. *Principals will send these documents to you shortly.*
- 5. Students in grades 9-12 may continue to use their <u>personal laptops</u> in school **ONLY IF** the laptops are properly registered with the district and parents/guardians sign the required agreements. *Dr. Falino will send this form out shortly.* **Students are prohibited** from accessing hotspot devices, social media, and/or messaging apps on their registered personal laptops during the school day.

What if I believe my child should have an exception to having their cell phone with them in school during the day?

- 1. Exceptions for medical reasons: Contact your child's building principal.
- 2. Exceptions in a 504 plan: Contact the 504 coordinator of your child's school.
- 3. Exceptions in an IEP: Contact the director of special education.
- 4. Other: Contact your child's building principal.

Where can I find more information on the policy?

- 1. Frequently asked questions are posted HERE.
- 2. The presentation from the policy committee to the full board is posted HERE.
- 3. The polices for all New York State school districts are posted HERE.