

# Changes to HCPSS Student Technology Device Policy

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[Policy 8080 - Responsible Use of Technology, Digital Tools, and Social Media](#)

Previous HCPSS Policy	New HCPSS Policy <i>As of Mar. 3, 2025</i>
<p>HCPSS permits students to bring personal technology devices to school, according to the following rules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Elementary Schools – Students will keep personal technology devices in backpacks during the school day, unless otherwise authorized by school administrators or instructional staff.</li> <li>Middle Schools – Students: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students will not use personal technology devices during non-instructional time, to include but not limited to transition between classes, lunch, recess, or in bathrooms.</li> <li>A school administrator may, on occasion, authorize the use of personal technology devices for special events and/or for positive behavioral supports and interventions.</li> </ul> </li> <li>High Schools – Students: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May only use personal technology devices during classroom instruction when allowed by instructional staff; and</li> <li>May use personal technology devices during non-instructional time (transitions between classes, lunch or special events), unless prohibited by school administrators or instructional staff.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Students will keep personal technology devices away and silenced and ensure they are not a distraction during the student day.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Smart watches may be worn during the student day but may not distract instruction or be used for reasons other than checking the time.</li> <li>A staff member on a school-sponsored field trip may permit the use of a personal technology device by a student in limited situations where capturing a picture or video may be appropriate or contacting a parent/guardian is necessary.</li> <li>School administrators and school administrators’ designees may authorize use of a personal device in rare instances such as an emergency for communication purposes, and when allowed as described in a student’s Individualized Education Program (IEP), Section 504 Plan, or Health Plan.</li> <li>Personal laptops may be used for instructional activities in high school.</li> </ul> <p><b>Personal Technology Device:</b> Any non-HCPSS device that may be used to send or receive data via voice, video or text. This includes, but is not limited to, mobile phones, e-readers, tablets, personal computers, wearable technology, video recorders or other devices equipped with microphones, speakers and/or cameras.</p> <p><b>Student day:</b> From the first bell of the day to the last bell of the day. (Note: this will be during posted school hours if the school does not use bells.)</p> <p><b>Away and silenced:</b> Devices are not able to be seen by either the student or staff member and are set to make no noise.</p>
Consequences for Policy Violations <i>As of Mar. 3, 2025</i>	
<p><b>Consequences for general violations of policy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>First Incident:</b> The personal technology device is confiscated until the end of the student day. Students should turn off or lock devices prior to confiscation. A device that is confiscated during the final period of the student day will be confiscated for the entire next student day. The student may retrieve the device at the end of the day it was originally confiscated to take home but must provide it to the front office upon arrival on the next student day.</li> <li><b>Second Incident &amp; Beyond:</b> The personal technology device is confiscated until it is retrieved by a parent/guardian. Students should turn off or lock devices prior to confiscation.</li> </ul> <p><b>Consequences for violations of policy by students who may use personal technology as part of an IEP/504 plan/health plan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>First Incident:</b> A phone call to the student’s parent/guardian.</li> <li><b>Second Incident &amp; Beyond:</b> Required conference between the school administrator and parent/guardian, and level 3 responses aligned to the Student Code of Conduct at the school administrator’s discretion.</li> </ul>	