

FREDERICK COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS		Reg. No. 400-18
Subject:	CELL PHONES AND OTHER PORTABLE ELECTRONIC DEVICES– STUDENT USE	Date of Issue: 5/2/07
Preparing Office:	Office of the Superintendent	Amended: 8/5/09

I. Policy

II. Procedures

A. Definition

Portable electronic communication devices (hereafter referred to as electronic devices) are any personal devices that emit an audible signal, vibrate, display a message or visual, or otherwise summons or deliver a communication on behalf of the possessor.

B. Student Possession/Use

1. Student possession and use of electronic devices on school property and at school-sponsored events on and off campus is a privilege, not a right.
2. It is the intent of Frederick County Public Schools to ensure that student possession or use of electronic devices does not:
 - a. Disrupt the learning environment or approved school activity.
 - b. Pose a threat to academic integrity.
 - c. Violate confidentiality or privacy rights of others during the school day as well as during after-school activities or the safe transportation of students.
 - d. Create safety concerns.

C. Student Restrictions

1. Except as provided in Section D., electronic devices must be powered off at all times during the school day and while aboard a school bus or other school-sponsored vehicle.
2. Electronic devices placed in a vibrate or other non-audible mode are not considered powered off for purposes of this regulation.
3. Electronic devices with camera and recording functions may not be used to take or transfer any image at any time on school premises, even if the use of the cellular phone is otherwise permitted.

D. Permitted Conditions

Use of electronic devices by students on school property may be permitted under the following conditions:

- For students who need communication devices for documented medical reasons.
 - Members of a fire department, ambulance company, or rescue squad who have provided a written authorization from their chief to the building administrator.
 - After-school hours, with the exception of B.2.
 - To briefly communicate with the student's parent/guardian while attending or traveling to or from school or a school-sponsored activity provided the supervising adult has granted the student permission.
 - At the direction of the teacher for approved instructional purposes.
- E. Students found to be in violation of this regulation are subject to disciplinary action in accordance with Regulation 400-8.
- F. Frederick County Public Schools is not responsible for the loss, theft, damage, or destruction of any electronic device.

Approved:

original signed by

Linda D. Burgee
Superintendent