## CONRAD WEISER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: OPERATIONS

TITLE: NONDISTRICT-OWNED

**ELECTRONIC DEVICES** 

ADOPTED: October 16, 2013

**REVISED:** 

## 815.2. NONDISTRICT-OWNED ELECTRONIC DEVICES

1. Purpose

The School Board believes that the educational environment should be free from unnecessary disruptions, distractions and threats. The School Board has determined that the presence of electronic devices in schools has the potential to distract from the primary purpose of education and otherwise disrupt the educational environment. Therefore, the School Board adopts this policy to establish reasonable rules and regulations to authorize possession of electronic devices in school while still ensuring the presence of these devices does not disrupt the educational environment or distract, harass or threaten others.

2. Definition

**Electronic devices** are nondistrict-owned devices that shall include wireless or portable equipment that can take photographs; record audio or video data; store, transmit or receive messages or images. Electronic devices include, but shall not be limited to, laser pointers, radios, CD players, iPods, MP3 players, tablet computers, DVD players, handheld game consoles, Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs), cellular telephones, and laptop computers, digital cameras, digital readers, as well as any new technology developed with similar capabilities.

3. Authority Pol. 815

Use of electronic devices is permitted only according to the terms outlined in this policy. The Board permits the use of electronic devices in line with the expectations set forth in the Acceptable Use Policy.

The Board authorizes the building principal, district administration, or designated professional staff member to define the educational value and permit or place restrictions on the possession or use of any electronic device.

Pol. 122, 123

Electronic devices shall not be used in any way that disrupts or detracts from the education and work environment. The Board permits the use of electronic devices for educational and operational purposes. The Board further permits electronic devices for nondisruptive use during noninstructional and nonoperational times in locations designated by the administration. The use of electronic devices during school-related activities may be permitted in accordance with guidelines established by the district.

## 815.2 NONDISTRICT-OWNED ELECTRONIC DEVICES - Pg. 2

Nondistrict-owned electronic devices may not be connected to the school district's wired network.

The district shall not be liable for the loss, theft, damage or misuse of any electronic device brought to school, possessed/used during the school day, in/on district buildings, district property, district vehicles or contracted vehicles, during transport to/from school, while attending school-sponsored activities during the school day, and/or any/all school-sponsored activities generally. The district will provide no technical support, troubleshooting, or repair for electronic devices.

The district shall not assume any cost incurred for the use of electronic devices.

Electronic devices shall not be used in locker rooms, in bathrooms, in health suites and in other changing areas at any time.

Use of electronic devices for photography and/or recording may only occur when authorized by the building principal, district administration, or designated professional staff member for the purposes of participation in educational activities.

The Board prohibits the taking, storing, disseminating, transferring, viewing, or sharing of obscene, pornographic, lewd, or otherwise illegal materials, whether by electronic data transfer or other means, including but not limited to, texting and emailing. Recording anyone without their knowledge and permission is prohibited and may be punishable under federal, state and local laws.

Because such violations may constitute a crime under local, state and/or federal law, the district may report such conduct to local, state and/or federal law enforcement agencies.

4. Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent or designee shall annually notify students, parents/guardians and employees about the Board's electronic device policy.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative regulations to implement this policy.

5. Guidelines Pol. 218, 317, 417, 517, 815 Any and all use of electronic devices is subject to the restrictions, monitoring, guidelines, and prohibitions of the Acceptable Use Policy. Violations of this policy shall result in disciplinary action and may result in confiscation of the electronic device.

Use of electronic devices pursuant to this policy is a privilege, not a right, unless otherwise required by legal exception stated below. Abuse of this policy will result in discontinuation of electronic device privileges as determined by the administration.

## 815.2 NONDISTRICT-OWNED ELECTRONIC DEVICES - Pg. 3

	<u>Legal Exceptions</u>
SC 1371.1	The building administrator may grant approval for possession and use of an electronic device by a student for the following reasons:
	1. Health, safety or emergency reasons.
Pol. 113	2. An individualized education program (IEP), a gifted individualized education plan (GIEP), or a Chapter 15 Service Agreement (504 Plan).
	3. Individual is a member of a volunteer fire company, ambulance or rescue squad.
	4. Individual has a need due to the medical condition of an immediate family member.
	5. Other reasons determined appropriate by the building administrator.
	References:
	School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 1317.1
	Board Policy 113, 122, 123, 218, 317, 417, 517, 815