

The Vanguard School

POLICY: Vanguard JICJ – Use of Personal Technology Devices

POLICY ADOPTED: 5-19-2020

For purposes of this policy, “personal technology device” (PTD) includes any privately owned portable technology device, including but not limited to cell phones, pagers, tablets, laptops, cameras, audio and/or video recorders and players, and all other hand-held electronic communication and data storage devices.

The Board of Education believes personal technology devices may, at times, be useful tools in the educational environment and can play a vital communication role during emergency situations. However, the use of personal technology devices in school situations must be regulated to protect privacy rights and to ensure there is no interference with the educational process or school operations. Therefore, the use of personal technology devices on school property, on a school vehicle, or at a school-sponsored activity or event may occur only in accordance with this policy.

The Vanguard School’s policy is that PTDs are not permitted to be used during school hours and must be kept in a student’s backpack (K-6) or locker (7-12). Students may only use PTDs if authorized by the building administrator, and then only for the specific purposes identified. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that the PTD is turned off or placed in silent mode during unauthorized times and returned to his/her backpack or locker at the earliest opportunity following the event.

Use of PTDs with cameras and/or video recording capabilities is prohibited in locker rooms, bathrooms, or any other location where such use could violate another person's reasonable expectation of privacy.

Students shall not use PTDs to engage in, promote, or facilitate any other conduct that violates the student code of conduct, other Board policies or regulations, or state or federal law.

Students or parents may not employ the photographic, video graphic, audio recording, or reproduction capacity of any electronic device for the purpose of either visual or audio recording of any student or educational activity at which students are present without the express consent of the building administrator. Even in the case of consent by the building administrator, the parent retains the right not to have their child be recorded without their permission. In the case of students, when consent has been granted, this still may only occur under the supervision of a teacher or administrator. This section applies at all times while on school premises, including on school transportation, or at school-sponsored events, regardless of location. The only exceptions are for publicly attended sports events or school performances. This policy

is fully consistent with the school's approach concerning Student Image Publishing, which is requested annually for all students (Refer to Opt-Out Form for Student Image Publishing). Note: not submitting an opt-out form for Student Image Publishing does NOT constitute consent for reproduction by other students or parents. Specific consent is still required as outlined in this policy.

Student violations of this policy may result in disciplinary measures and/or temporary confiscation of the PTD. Confiscated devices shall be returned to the parent only after a conference with the parent, student, and school personnel. If the building principal or designee believes a student's possession or use of a PTD may involve a violation of the law, the building principal or designee may also refer the matter to law enforcement.

Parent violations of this policy may result in not being permitted to future school events or activities, as well as referral to law enforcement for Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) violations or other privacy violations.

The school shall not be responsible for loss, theft, or destruction of PTDs brought onto school property or while the student or parent is attending school-sponsored activities or events.