

UNAUTHORIZED COMMUNICATION DEVICES

Student use of cell phones, camera phones, pagers, beepers, and other similar electronic communication devices is strictly prohibited during the school day unless approved under the JICL policy. This includes lunch periods and passing periods, as well as on school sponsored trips and driver education classes. Such devices are to be kept in a student's assigned locker with the power turned off. The Board recommends that these devices not be brought to school.

The contents of an electronic communication device may be searched to determine ownership or to identify emergency contacts. Upon reasonable suspicion that a school rule or the law has been violated through the use of such a device, an administrator may also search for evidence of suspected wrongdoing in accordance with RSA 275:72. Any refusal on the part of a student to comply with a request to surrender the device may result in disciplinary action.

Additionally, it is prohibited for students to take, store, disseminate, transfer, view, or share obscene, pornographic, lewd, or otherwise illegal images or photographs, whether by electronic data transfer or other means, including but not limited to texting and e-mailing. Any student found to have engaged in such conduct may be reported to local law enforcement authorities and may face criminal penalties in accordance with applicable law. School administrators may refer such matters to local law enforcement if the administrator believes student action in this regard involves illegal activity. (e.g. pornography)

The Board may grant an exception to this policy for medical or emergency reasons. This exception requires a written report from the student's medical provider explaining the need for the exception. Also reference policy JICL.

Students participating in extra-curricular activities or athletics must contact their sponsor or coach for his/her rules involving cell phone use after hours or on after-school bus trips. Sponsors and coaches will set their rules and establish their consequences for the use and/or misuse of these devices.

The school district will not be responsible for loss, damage or theft of any electronic communication device brought to the school.

Violations of this policy may result in the student's loss of possession of the electronic communication device for the remainder of the school year. The student's parent/guardian must pick up the cell phone from the principal's office. At the principal's discretion, the student may receive detention, in-school suspension, or out-of-school suspension not to exceed five (5) days.

Legal Reference: RSA 275:72 – Use of Social Media and Electronic Mail
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