

# ALLENTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: ELECTRONIC DEVICES

ADOPTED: June 21, 2007

REVISED:

237. ELECTRONIC DEVICES	
1. Purpose	The possession of pagers/beepers, cellular phones, or other electronic devices by district employees, where supportive of the general welfare and the educational program of the school, is permitted. However, the possession of pagers/beepers, cellular phones, or other electronic communication devices by students, for reasons other than medical necessity, has been found to be disruptive to the educational process, and is generally prohibited in accordance with this policy.
2. Authority SC 1317.1	The Board generally prohibits possession of telephone paging devices/beepers by students on school property, on buses and other vehicles provided by the district, and at school-sponsored activities during regular school hours.
SC 510	The Board further prohibits use of personal communication devices by students during the school day in district buildings, on district property, and while students are attending school-sponsored activities during regular school hours.
Pol. 815	The use of any device that has the capability of Internet connection is prohibited. Any Internet connection must be via the district network and must be authorized as described in policy 815.  The Board prohibits possession of nonschool-owned laser pointers, or laser pointer attachments, by students on school grounds, at school-sponsored activities, and on buses or other vehicles provided by the district. Appropriate student use of these school-owned devices shall be permitted when their use is supervised by a school professional.
Pol. 113	The district shall not be liable for the loss, damage or misuse of any electronic device brought to school by a student.  Exceptions to the prohibitions set forth in this policy may be made for health, safety or emergency reasons with prior approval of the building principal or designee, or when use is provided for in a student's individualized education program (IEP).

<p>3. Delegation of Responsibility</p> <p>4. Guidelines Pol. 218, 233</p> <p>SC 1317.1</p>	<p>The Superintendent or designee shall annually notify students, parents/guardians and staff about the district’s electronic device policy by publishing such policy in the student handbook, newsletters, posted notices, and/or any other methods.</p> <p>Unauthorized electronic devices shall be confiscated and the student's parent/guardian shall be notified. If the device is not suspected of being stolen, it shall be returned to the parent/guardian at the end of the school year. The parent/guardian is responsible for making an appointment and picking up the device from the office of the school principal; unauthorized electronic devices will not be returned to a student. Devices will only be returned to a parent/guardian upon proof of ownership. If the device is suspected of being stolen, it shall be turned over to the police. Disciplinary consequences shall be in accordance with the district's policies and administrative regulations concerning student discipline.</p> <p><u>Telephone Pagers/Beepers</u></p> <p>With prior administrative approval, the telephone paging device/beeper prohibition shall not apply in the following cases:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A student who is a member of a volunteer fire company, ambulance or rescue squad.</li> <li>2. A student who has a need for such a device due to his/her medical condition.</li> <li>3. Other reasons determined appropriate by the building principal.</li> </ol> <p>For pre-approval to carry a pager/beeper, a student must submit a letter to his/her principal from a volunteer fire company, ambulance, rescue squad, or a physician, stating it is necessary for him/her to carry such a device. Upon review by the principal or principal's designee, and approval of the request, an authorization card shall be issued by the school authority.</p> <p><u>Cellular Telephones</u></p> <p>Students may transport cellular phones to and from school, provided they adhere to the following requirements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The cellular phone must be turned off upon entering any school building and remain off until the student leaves the school building.</li> <li>2. The cellular phone must be properly stored during school hours within the student’s assigned locker or other area designated by the school administration.</li> </ol>
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<p>Pol. 815</p>	<p>3. The cellular phone must remain off during a school evacuation.</p> <p><u>Other Devices</u></p> <p>Laptop computers, MP3 players and other digital music devices, personal digital assistants (PDAs) and other electronic devices brought to school shall not be utilized during the school day without prior permission from the administration and/or classroom teacher. Students shall comply with the guidelines set by the classroom teacher or school officials for the educational use of laptop computers and PDAs. Connection to the Internet via anything other than the district's network is a violation of this policy and district policy 815 relating to acceptable use.</p> <p>References:</p> <p>School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 510, 1317.1</p> <p>Federal Wiretapping and Electronic Surveillance Act – 18 U.S.C. Sec. 2510, et seq.</p> <p>Pennsylvania Wiretapping and Electronic Surveillance Act – 18 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 5703</p> <p>Board Policy – 113, 218, 233, 815</p>
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