

Board Policy

Possession of Cellular Phones and Other Personal Electronic Signaling Devices

The Governing Board believes that a productive learning environment is one that is free of unnecessary distractions.

In accordance with Education Code 48901.5, personal electronic signaling devices on all Gilroy Unified School District school campuses are subject to regulation by the Governing Board, or its designee, while students are on campus, while attending school-sponsored activities, or while under the supervision and control of school district employees. This includes after-school detention and Saturday School.

The Board imposes the following stipulations and restrictions in order to create a learning environment free of the distractions that might result from unrestricted use of cellular phones and other electronic signaling devices:

Elementary School (Kindergarten – Fifth Grade)

1. Cellular phones and other electronic signaling devices are prohibited on campus.
2. In accordance with Education Code 48901.5, no student shall be prohibited from possessing or using an electronic signaling device that is determined by only a licensed physician or surgeon to be essential for the student's health and the use of which is limited to health-related purposes.
3. Other exceptions to the policy will be determined on a case-by-case basis by the site administrator or his/her designee.
4. If a student is found to be in possession of an electronic signaling device without proper authorization, a District employee will use best judgment and determine which of the following options to exercise:
 - Confiscate the device until the end of the school day;
 - Confiscate the device and turn it over to the administration.
5. If a device is confiscated and turned over to the administration, the site administrator or designee will determine when and how the device will be returned.
6. A student who violates this policy is subject to discipline in accordance with Board policy, administrative regulation, and site rules.
7. Students bring electronic signaling devices on campus at their own risk. The school is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged electronic signaling devices.

Middle School (Sixth – Eighth Grade)

1. Students may possess on campus electronic signaling devices, including but not limited to pagers, beepers, and cellular/digital telephones.
2. Cellular phones and other electronic devices must be turned off and kept out of sight at all times while school is in session. Electronic devices shall not be left on in vibrating mode.
3. In accordance with Education Code 48901.5, no student shall be prohibited from possessing or using an electronic signaling device that is determined by only a

- licensed physician or surgeon to be essential for the student's health and the use of which is limited to health-related purposes.
4. If a student uses an electronic signaling device while school is in session or if a student's electronic device rings while school is in session and proper authorization has not been given for the use of the device, a District employee will use best judgment and determine which of the following options to exercise:
 - a. Direct the student to turn off the device and put it out of sight immediately;
 - b. Confiscate the device until the end of the class period, school day, or activity;
 - c. Confiscate the device and turn it over to the administration.
 5. If a device is confiscated and turned over to the administration, the site administrator or designee will determine when and how the device will be returned.
 6. A student who violates this policy is subject to discipline in accordance with Board policy, administrative regulation, and site rules.
 7. A student who violates this policy may be prohibited from possessing a personal electronic device at school or school-related events.
 8. Students bring electronic signaling devices on campus at their own risk. The school is not responsible for lost, stolen or damaged electronic signaling devices.

High School (Ninth – Twelfth Grade)

1. Students may possess or use electronic signaling devices, including but not limited to pagers, beepers, and cellular/digital phones.
2. Cellular phones and other electronic signaling devices must be turned off and kept out of sight during class time. Electronic signaling devices shall not be left on in vibrating mode.
3. In accordance with Education Code 48901.5, no student shall be prohibited from possessing or using an electronic signaling device that is determined by only a licensed physician or surgeon to be essential for the student's health and the use of which is limited to health-related purposes.
4. Students shall be allowed to use cellular phones and other electronic signaling devices before school, after school, and during breaks.
5. If a student uses an electronic signaling device while on campus or if an electronic device rings while a student is on campus and proper authorization has not been given for the use of the device, a District employee will use best judgment and determine which of the following options to exercise:
 - Direct the student to turn off the device and put it out of sight immediately;
 - Confiscate the device until the end of the class period, school day, or activity;
 - Confiscate the device and turn it over to the administration.
8. If a device is confiscated and turned over to the administration, the site administrator or designee will determine when and how the device will be returned.

9. A student who violates this policy is subject to discipline in accordance with Board policy, administrative regulation, and site rules.
10. A student who violates this policy may be prohibited from possessing a personal electronic signaling device at school or school-related events.
11. Students bring electronic signaling devices on campus at their own risk. The school is not responsible for lost, stolen or damaged electronic signaling devices.

The use of electronic signaling devices for unlawful and inappropriate reasons is prohibited. These include, but are not limited to, invasion of privacy, endangerment, sexual harassment, and cheating. Such a use will be subject to discipline in accordance with Board policy, administrative regulation, and California Education Code.

(cf: 1020 – Youth Services)

(cf: 1400 – Relations Between Other Governmental Agencies and the Schools)

(cf: 5020 – Parent Rights and Responsibilities)

(cf: 5138 – Conflict Resolution/Peer Mediation)

(cf: 5144 – Discipline)

(cf: 5144.1 – Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)

(cf: 5144.2 – Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process (Students with Disabilities))

(cf: 6020 – Parent Involvement)

(cf: 6164.2 – Guidance/Counseling Services)

(cf: 6182 – Opportunity School/Class/Program)

(cf: 6184 – Continuation Education)

(cf: 6185 – Community Day School)

Policy: GILROY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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