



PUBLIC SCHOOL 16 QUEENS
The Nancy DeBenedittis School
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SCHOOL-BASED POLICY OF P.S. 16Q THE NANCY DEBENEDITTIS SCHOOL

FOR USE OF CELL PHONES, COMPUTING DEVICES, AND PORTABLE MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT SYSTEMS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

Students are permitted to bring the following electronic items to school: 1) cell phones; 2) laptops, tablets, iPads and other similar computing devices (“computing devices”); and 3) portable music and entertainment systems, such as iPods, MP3 players, PSP, and Nintendo DS.

A. The use of cell phones, computing devices and portable music and entertainment systems at school is subject to the restrictions below.

1. Electronic devices may not be turned on or used during the administration of any school quiz, test or State Examination, except where such use has been explicitly authorized by the school or is contained in an Individualized Education Program or Section 504 Accommodation Plan.
2. Use of electronic devices during the administration of New York State Standardized Examinations is governed by the State Education Department rules.
3. Cell phones, computing devices and portable music and entertainment systems may not be turned on or used during school fire drills or other emergency preparedness exercises.
4. Cell phones, computing devices, and portable music and entertainment systems may not be used in bathrooms, stairwells, hallways, the school yard or the lunch room.

B. Cell phones may not be used as set forth below:

During the school day:

- Cell phones may not be turned on or used while on school property.
- Cell phones may not be used during after school programs, Saturday School or on Field Trips.

C. Computing devices may be used as set forth below:

During the school day:

- Computing systems may not be turned on or used during instructional time or during after school, Saturday School and Field Trips, except for instructional and educational purposes with the explicit approval of the teacher.

D. Portable music and entertainment systems may not be used as set forth below.

During the school day:

- Portable music devices and entertainment systems may not be turned on or used while on school property.
- Portable music devices and entertainment systems may not be turned on or used during after school programs, Saturday School or on Field Trips.

E. Confiscation and return of electronic items

Electronic devices may be subject to confiscation by a school administrator or staff member. Where appropriate, measures may be instituted in a progressive fashion. Such measures may include, but are not limited to:

- Warnings
- Confiscation of item and return at end of school day.
- Confiscation of item and return following parent conference.
- Confiscation of item and return following student entering into behavioral contract.
- Revocation of privilege to bring item to school.

F. Discipline

Students who use cell phones, computing devices, and/or portable music and entertainment system in violation of any provision of the DOE’s Discipline Code, the school’s policy, Chancellor Regulation A-413, and/or the DOE’s Internet Acceptable Use and Safety Policy will be subject to discipline in accordance with the guidance interventions and disciplinary responses set forth in the Discipline Code.

G. Lost/Stolen Devices

Students are responsible for their electronic devices and should take measures to ensure that their devices are safely stored in backpacks.