



THE MELROSE SCHOOL - PS/MS 29 (07X029) POLICY 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, such as iPods, MP3 players.

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

1. All cell phones, computing devices, and portable music must remain off while in the school building.
2. Cell phones and portable music may not be turned on or used during the administration of any school quiz, test or examination.
3. Computing devices may not be turned on or used during the administration of any school quiz, test or 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.
4. Use of cell phones, computing devices, portable music, and other electronic devices during the administration of state standardized examinations is governed by State Education Department Rules.
5. Cell phones, computing devices, and portable music may not be turned on or used during school fire drills or other emergency preparedness exercises.
6. Cell phones, computing devices, and portable music may not be used in locker rooms or bathrooms.

B. Cell phones may 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 in areas where swimming pools are located.
- Cell phones may not be turned on or used during instructional time.

During after-school and/or school-sponsored programs or activities:

- Cell phones may not be turned on or used while on school property.
- Cell phones may not be turned on or used while participating in after-school and/or school-sponsored programs or activities.

C. Computing devices may be used as set forth below (select applicable option(s) or select other options consistent with Regulation A-413).

During the school day:

- Computing devices may not be turned on or used while on school property.
- Computing devices may not be used in areas where swimming pools are located.
- Computing systems may not be turned on or used during instructional time.

During after-school and/or school-sponsored programs or activities:

- Computing devices may not be turned on or used while on school property.
- Computing devices may not be turned on or used while participating in after-school and/or school-sponsored programs or activities.

D. Portable music may be used as set forth below.

During the school day:

- Portable music devices may not be turned on or used while on school property.
- Portable music may not be used in areas where swimming pools are located.
- Portable music devices and entertainment systems may not be turned on or used during instructional time.

During after-school and/or school-sponsored activities:

- Portable music may not be turned on or used while on school property.
- Portable music may not be turned on or used while participating in after-school and/or school-sponsored programs or activities.

E. Confiscation and return of electronic items

In determining whether to confiscate an electronic device, our administrators consider the nature of the violation. Where appropriate, the following measures are 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 outside of the policy set forth herein will be in violation of provision(s) 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 ("ISUSP") and will be subject to discipline in accordance with the guidance interventions and disciplinary responses set forth in the Discipline Code.