

Communication Device Use in School Policy

The Frederick Area Board of Education recognizes the need to provide access to technological resources. For the purposes of this policy, "Remotely activated, or Activating Communication Devices" are defined to include portable two-way telecommunications devices, including but not limited to cellular telephones with or without cameras, beepers, walkie talkies, other hand-held computing devices used as a communication device, any portable electronic device capable of storing and transmitting or receiving images, such as cameras, as well as any new technology developed for similar purposes.

These electronic devices are to be in the OFF position at all times during the instructional day and stored in a locker, back pack or similar enclosure. The instructional day includes, but is not limited to lunch breaks, class changes, study halls, and any other structured or non-activity that occurs during the instructional normal school day as well as extra curricular activities or after school activities. Exceptions will be made for students with specific needs that require such devices as per their IEP. Also exceptions include uses in instruction and extra curricular activities dictated by the instructional staff/coaches.

Any use of electronic devices during the instructional school day without permission of the administrative staff shall be considered a disciplinary violation. The first infraction shall result in the confiscation of the device. Once the device is confiscated it will only be returned to a parent or guardian. The second infraction shall result in confiscation of the device, a parent or guardian conference, and immediate termination of the right to carry an electronic device for the rest of the school year. Any violation of this policy may also, at the principal's discretion, result in additional disciplinary action. Other disciplinary action may include work detention, in-school suspension, out-of-school suspension, or board action