

## STUDENTS AND TELECOMMUNICATION DEVICES

Students in possession of telecommunications devices, including, but not limited to, pagers, beepers, smart phones, cellular phones, e-readers and tablets while on school property or while attending school-sponsored or school-related activities shall observe the following conditions:

- A. Telecommunication devices shall be turned on and operated only before and after the regular school day, unless an emergency situation exists that involves imminent physical danger or a school administrator authorizes the student to use the device. Students in grades 10-12 may use electronic devices before school, after school, during lunchtime and during passing time so long as the use of these devices is done so in accordance with other regulations detailed in this policy.
- B. Students shall not use telecommunication devices in a manner that poses a threat to academic integrity, disrupts the learning environment, violates the privacy rights of others or has the effect of harassing or intimidating students or staff.
- C. Students shall not use telecommunications devices of any kind in restrooms or locker rooms at any time.
- D. Students must have prior permission from an administrator or designee before recording photographs, video or audio during the school day
- E. Students shall not send, share, view or possess pictures, text messages, emails or other material depicting sexually explicit conduct, as defined in RCW 9.68A.011, in electronic or any other form on a cell phone or other electronic device, while the student is on school grounds, at school sponsored events or on school buses or vehicles provided by the district.
- F. When a school official has reasonable suspicion, based on objective and articulable facts, that a student is using a telecommunications device in a manner that violates the law or school rules, the official may confiscate the device, and may determine that it will only be returned to the student's parent or legal guardian.
- G. By bringing a cell phone or other electronic devices to school or school-sponsored events, the student and their parent/guardian consent to the search of the device when school officials have a reasonable suspicion, based on objective and articulable facts, that such a search will reveal a violation of the law or school rules. Content or images that violate state or federal laws will be referred to law enforcement.
- H. Students are responsible for devices they bring to school. The district shall not be responsible for loss, theft or destruction of devices brought onto school property or to school sponsored events.
- I. Students shall comply with any additional rules developed by the school concerning the appropriate use of telecommunication or other electronic devices.
- J. Students who violate this policy will be subject to disciplinary action, including suspension or expulsion.

Management Resources: *Policy News*, February 2004  
*Policy News*, June 2010  
*Policy News*, October 2010

Evolution of Cell Phone Use  
Students and Sexting  
Students and Telecommunication  
Devices Revisited

**Adoption Date: November 10, 2010,**  
**School District Name: University Place School District**  
**Revised: 2.04; 06.10; 10.10; 09.14**  
**Classification: Priority**