

1 Revised Policy
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3 **Wireless Communication and Other Electronic Devices**

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5 Pursuant to Florida Statute 1006.07:
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7 In elementary school, the use of wireless communication devices is always prohibited during the
8 school day, unless expressly directed by a teacher, staff, and/or administrative staff.
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10 In middle school, the use of wireless communication devices is always prohibited during the
11 instructional school day.
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13 In high school classrooms, teachers shall designate a specific location—such as backpacks,
14 cubbies, or other approved storage areas—where students are required to store their wireless
15 communication devices during instructional time. All devices must remain on silent. High school
16 students are not permitted to use wireless communication devices during instructional time unless
17 explicitly directed by a teacher for educational purposes only. A high school administrator may
18 designate specific areas within school buildings where students are permitted to use their wireless
19 communication devices.
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21 Violations of the wireless communications policy will be handled in accordance with the Student
22 Code of Conduct and may result in confiscation of said device. If the WCD is used in a criminal
23 act (such as sexting, as outlined in Florida Statutes and the Student Code of Conduct), the cell
24 phone will be provided to law enforcement and the student may face criminal penalties.
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26 Students may not receive discipline if they use their wireless communications policy to monitor a
27 health condition that is documented through medical records provided to the school including, but
28 not limited to, an IEP, a Section 504 Plan, or a Health Plan.
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30 At no time shall Hillsborough County Public Schools be responsible for theft, loss or damage to
31 wireless communications policy or other electronic devices brought onto its property.
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33 Students shall not operate a motor vehicle owned or leased by the district on or off school
34 property, or personal motor vehicle on district property, while manually typing into a personal
35 communication device or while sending or reading messages on such a device, for the purpose
36 of non-voice interpersonal communication, including, but not limited to, communication methods
37 known as texting, e-mailing, instant messaging, including Snapchat, and any forms of social
38 media.
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40 The use of WCDs that contain built-in cameras (i.e., devices that take still or motion pictures,
41 whether in a digital or other format) is prohibited in locker rooms, shower facilities, and/or
42 rest/bathrooms. Furthermore, students are prohibited from using WCDs to take unauthorized
43 photographs or videos involving students and/or staff and posting those online or on social media
44 platforms.
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46 Students shall have no expectation of confidentiality with respect to their use of WCDs on school
47 premises/property. Students may not use a WCD in any way that might reasonably create in the
48 mind of another person an impression of being threatened, humiliated, harassed, embarrassed
49 or intimidated. In particular, students are prohibited from using WCDs to: (1) transmit material that
50 is threatening, obscene, disruptive, or sexually explicit or that can be construed as harassment or
51 disparagement of others based upon their race, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, disability,

52 age, religion, ancestry, or political beliefs; and (2) engage in 'sexting' - i.e., sending, receiving,
53 sharing, viewing or possessing pictures, text messages, e-mails or other materials of a sexual
54 nature in electronic or any other form.

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56 Students are also prohibited from using a WCD to capture, record and/or transmit test information
57 or any other information in a manner constituting fraud, theft, cheating, or academic dishonesty.
58 Likewise, students are prohibited from using WCDs to receive such information. Students must
59 adhere to any additional restrictions imposed within a testing environment regarding the use
60 and/or possession of WCDs during testing.

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62 In an emergency situation, all WCDs must be placed in silent mode.

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64 **Definitions:**

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66 “Wireless communication device” (WCD) includes peripheral devices that have a wired or wireless
67 connection (e.g., smart phones, headphones, earbuds, two-way messaging devices, smart
68 watches, [smart glasses, including prescription smart glasses](#) and electronic gaming devices, etc.).
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70 “Sexting” is the knowing transmission or distribution to another minor by a computer or similar
71 device any photograph or video of any person that depicts nudity and is harmful to minors. Sexting
72 also includes possession of a photo of any person that was transmitted or distributed by another
73 minor that depicts nudity. Such conduct not only is potentially dangerous for the involved students,
74 but also can lead to unwanted exposure of the messages and images to others and could result
75 in criminal violations related to the transmission or possession of child pornography. Such conduct
76 will be subject to discipline and confiscation of the WCD and referral to law enforcement.

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78 *(link)* Student Code of Conduct

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80 F.S. 1006.07(2)(f)

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82 Revised 05/23/2015, 07/23/2024, 09/30/2025