Student Policy #

Regulations for Smartphones on School Campuses

Rationale: Beginning January 1, 2020 AB272 explicitly authorizes local education agencies (including charter schools) to adopt a policy to limit or prohibit the use of smartphones by students while the students are on campus, attending school-sponsored activities, or under the supervision of school staff. This legislation also, however, bars LEAs from prohibiting student possession or use of smartphones under specified circumstances as described in the policy below.

Smartphones on Campus: Smartphone use by students is not allowed on the elementary campus unless staff permission is granted. If a student possesses a smartphone or smartwatch, it must stay in the student’s backpack. These devices may be used on the middle school campus with staff permission only.

Notwithstanding the above, students shall not be prohibited from using or possessing a cellphone on campus, while attending school-sponsored activities, or under the supervision or control of school employees under any of the following circumstances:

- In the case of an emergency, or in response to a perceived threat of danger.
- When a teacher or administer of the Charter School grants permission to the student to possess or use the smartphone, subject to any reasonable limitation they may impose.
- When a licensed physician and surgeon determines that the possession or use of a smartphone is necessary for the health or well-being of the student.
- When the possession or use of a smartphone is required in a student’s individualized education program.