

**BETHEL SCHOOL DISTRICT #52**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY STATEMENT**

Subject: **Personal Electronic Devices and Social Media**

Policy Number: **JFCEB** Effective Date: **5/2018**

Date of Original Policy and Revisions: **4/15**

Cancels Policy No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Next Review: **5/2021**

**POLICY**

Student possession or use of personal electronic devices (PED) on district property, in district facilities during the school day and while the student is in attendance at district-sponsored activities may be permitted subject to the limitations set forth in this policy and consistent with any additional school rules as may be established by the Principal and approved by the Superintendent.

A “personal electronic device” (PED) is a device that is capable of electronically communicating, sending, receiving, storing, recording, reproducing and/or displaying information, data, photographs, or video.

Personal electronic devices shall be silenced and put away during instructional or class time unless explicitly authorized by staff. PEDs will be allowed during school district activities unless the device would cause a disruption.

If the district implements a curriculum that uses technology, students may be allowed to use their own personal electronic devices to access the curriculum. Students who are allowed to use their own devices to access the curriculum will be granted access to any application or electronic materials when they are available to students who do not use their own devices, or provided free of charge to students who do not use their own devices, for curriculum.

The district will not be liable for personal electronic devices brought to district property and district-sponsored activities including but not limited to loss, theft, damage or content.

The district will not be liable for information or comments posted by students on social media websites.

Exceptions to the prohibitions set forth in this policy may be made for health, safety or emergency reasons with prior Principal or designee approval or when use is provided for in a student’s individual education program (IEP).

Students are subject to disciplinary action for using a personal electronic device in any manner that is academically dishonest, illegal, harmful to another person, disruptive to the educational setting or violates the terms of this policy<sup>1</sup>. A referral to law enforcement officials may also be made. Personal electronic devices brought to district property or used in violation of this policy are subject to confiscation and will be released to the student’s parent or property owner, as appropriate.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the Board’s policy and any subsequent school rules developed by building administrators are reviewed and approved in advance to ensure consistency with this policy and that pertinent provisions of policy and school rules are communicated to staff, students, and parents through building handbooks and other means.

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<sup>1</sup>The taking, disseminating, transferring or sharing of obscene, pornographic or otherwise illegal images or photographs, whether by electronic data transfer or otherwise (commonly called texting, sexting, emailing, etc.) may constitute a crime under state and/or federal law. Any person taking, disseminating, transferring or sharing obscene, pornographic or otherwise illegal images or photographs will be reported to law enforcement and/or other appropriate state or federal agencies.

**Legal Reference(s):**

[ORS 332](#).107

[ORS 336](#).840

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