

Personal Electronic Devices and Social Media - Staff

Staff possession or use of personal communication devices on district property, in district facilities during the work day and while the staff is on duty 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 superintendent. At no time will a personal communication device be used in a manner that interferes with staff duty and responsibility for the supervision of students.

A “personal electronic device” is a device, not issued by the district, and is capable of electronically communicating, sending, receiving, storing, recording, reproducing, and/or displaying information and data.

Personal electronic devices shall be silenced during instructional time, while on duty or at any other time where such use of the device would cause a disruption of school activities or interfere with work assignment. Devices which have the capability to take photographs or record video or audio shall not be used for such purposes while on district property or while a staff member is on duty in district-sponsored activities, unless as expressly authorized by the principal or designee. Computers, tablets iPads or similar devices brought to school will be restricted to classroom or academic activities only.

The district will not be liable for loss or damage to personal electronic devices brought to district property and district-sponsored activities.

Staff members, while on or off duty, will utilize social media websites, public websites, and blogs judiciously by not posting confidential information about students, staff, or district business. Staff may not post images of district facilities, staff, students, volunteers, or parents without written authorization from persons with authority to grant such a release. Staff members, while on and off duty, will treat fellow employees, students, and the public with respect while posting. Communication with students using personal electronic devices will be appropriate, professional and related to school assignments or activities. If communicating with students electronically, staff should use district e-mail using mailing lists to a group of students rather than individual students. Texting students is discouraged.

Exceptions to the prohibitions set forth in this policy may be made for health, safety, or emergency reasons with superintendent or designee approval.

Staff are subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal for using a personal electronic device in any manner that is illegal or violates the terms of this policy. Staff actions on social media websites, public websites, and blogs, while on or off duty, which disrupt the school environment, are subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal. 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.

The superintendent shall ensure that this policy is available to all employees.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 167.057](#)

[ORS 163.432](#)

[ORS 163.433](#)

[ORS 163.684](#)

[ORS 163.686](#)

[ORS 163.687](#)

[ORS 163.688](#)

[ORS 163.689](#)

[ORS 163.693](#)

[ORS 163.700](#)

[ORS 326.011](#)

[ORS 326.051](#)

[ORS 332.072](#)

[ORS 332.107](#)

[ORS 336.840](#)

[[OAR 584-020-0000](#) to -0035]

Copyrights, Title 17, as amended, United States Code; 19 C.F.R. Part 133 (2014).

Melzer v. Bd. Of Educ., City of New York, 336 F.3d 185 (2d Cir. 2003).

Ross v. Springfield Sch. Dist., No. FDA 80-1, aff'd, 56 Or. App. 197, rev'd and remanded, 294 Or. 357 (1982), order on remand (1983), aff'd, 71 Or. App. 111 (1984), rev'd and remanded, 300 Or. 507 (1986), order on second remand (1987), revised order on second remand (1988).

Cross Reference(s):

JHFF - Reporting Requirements Regarding Sexual Conduct with Students