

Pleasure Ridge Park High School

Personal Telecommunication and Electronic Media Devices Policy

PRP High School strives to prepare every student for postsecondary education. Teaching them to be responsible digital citizens and to use technology appropriately must be included. Personal telecommunication and electronic media devices, which are defined in the *Code of Acceptable Behavior* and KRS 158.165 includes, but is not limited to, cell phones, smart phones, iPads, iPods and other similar media devices, are part of the technology that can be a benefit to the education of students, and an asset to student learning. As educators, we need to assist students with the mature management of these devices at school to better prepare them for postsecondary life. Students need to understand both the respectful ways to use electronics, and how to make good choices when confronted with the temptation of a media device. As adults, we balance the use of these devices with good judgment and respect for those around us in a number of settings. A progressive approach to media usage will not only teach and model mature management, but also provide endless learning opportunities that are relevant to the technology our students enjoy and use. Our students have a library in their pocket. Using that resource fulfills a growing need for a more efficient research tool.

A student at PRP High School may activate and display a personal telecommunication and electronic media device on school property. The goal is to maintain an academic focus in classrooms and other study areas while respecting the needs of our students to have reasonable access to their cell phones. To ensure an appropriate academic environment inside and outside the classroom setting, it is essential to adhere to the guidelines below. This policy is necessary to ensure respectful and non-disruptive use of personal electronic devices at PRP High School.

- The device should be on silent at all times.
- The use of personal electronic devices in the classroom is COMPLETELY at the choice and approval of the teacher.
- Placing or receiving voice, video, or text phone calls is prohibited in the classroom.
- PRP High School, faculty and staff, will not be held responsible for any damage, loss, or theft of the personally owned device. (JCPS Code of Conduct and Student Bill of Rights)
- The use of camera and video functions are forbidden at any time unless clearly defined within an instructional activity and with the permission of the teacher.
- Students will **not** be allowed to use devices in Tardy Hall or Time Out.
- Students will respect the teacher's/adult's requests if there are concerns about usage at inappropriate times. If a student is not being respectful of the instructional setting, or not following an adult's directives, a referral will be written and the student will meet with an administrator.
- Personal electronic devices may be used before school, after school, and during the lunch period in the common areas and in the cafeteria. Use of external speakers or headphones on electronic devices is prohibited in all areas.
- Students using personal electronic devices in any manner that disrupts the educational environment or violates the rights of others will be subject to disciplinary action.
- Students may not access, post, publish, forward, download, scan, or display defamatory, abusive, obscene, vulgar, sexually explicit, sexually suggestive, threatening, discriminatory, harassing, bullying, and/or illegal materials or messages on any electronic device.
- The use of personal electronic devices during **ALL** assessment times is prohibited, even if the student has finished his/her assessment.

If a student violates any of the rules above, the personal electronic device will be confiscated by an administrator/teacher and the student will be subject to discipline pursuant to the *Code of Acceptable Behavior and Discipline*.

Repeated violations of this policy will result in loss of the student's privilege to use any personal electronic device temporarily or permanently.

Addition to the Telecommunication Waivers

At the Board work session on Monday, August 26, 2013, board members asked schools to think about professional development for teacher and the accessibility of applications. PRP High School addresses these requests below.

PRP High School will offer professional development to teachers on the use of telecommunication devices in the classroom.

- This training will include helpful applications ("apps") and information on the accessibility of applications on various platforms.
- Teachers will be encouraged to attend the sessions and the information will also be embedded in school meetings throughout the year.
- As teachers make use of the applications, they will have information to share with each other about the benefits and drawbacks of particular sites and applications and will discuss the use of these in lessons.

Principal Signature:

David A. Johnson

Date: