

J. Graham Brown School

546 South First Street
Louisville, Kentucky 40202
(502) 485-8216
Fax: (502) 485-8741



July 11, 2014

Jefferson County Board of Education
Ms. Diane Porter, Chair:

On behalf of the J. Graham Brown School SBDM Council, I respectfully request that the JCPS Board of Education review and approve the personal Telecommunication and Electronic Media Devices Policies submitted for both our middle and high school levels. From its inception, the Brown School has made the development of personal responsibility and accountability for the work of its students a central component in its instructional program. The school's culture is one that provides opportunities for students to experience independent thought and personal accountability. Two separate policies were drafted in the event that the Board might be reluctant to endorse a policy for middle school students, although the school community feels strongly that our middle school would benefit from its approval.

Approval of these policies will enable school personnel to support students with mature management of personal electronic devices and may better prepare students for postsecondary life. Furthermore, student access to these devices during school will afford increased learning opportunities that are current, relevant, and engaging to students. The small size of the schools provides an excellent environment to monitor the instructional impact of these policies. Ultimately, with these policies in place, we will be able to produce more responsible digital citizens.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Timothy Healy".

Timothy Healy
Principal
J. Graham Brown School

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July 14, 2014

Dr. Dewey Hensley
Chief Academic Officer
Jefferson County Public Schools
Gheens Academy
4425 Preston Highway
Louisville, KY 40213

Dr. Hensley:

The J. Graham Brown School is requesting a Waiver of School Board Policy as it pertains to Personal Telecommunication and Electronic Media Devices. This Waiver Request was originally adopted by the Brown School SBDM Council in 2013. The school did not implement this policy change as the Board of Education had given its approval. With the new school year beginning soon, the Brown School SBDM Council feels it important to have this waiver approved. The appropriate documentation to support this request is enclosed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Timothy Healy".

Timothy Healy
Principal
J. Graham Brown School

SBDM Member Signatures (constitutes a majority of SBDM members)

Handwritten signature of Timothy Healy, chair.
Handwritten signature of Michael R. Marks.
Handwritten signature of Norah Kemp Wakefield.
Handwritten signature of Lisa Billings.
Handwritten signature of Cynthia Perreault.

Handwritten signature of Sam L. Hahn.
Handwritten signature of Patricia Canady.

J. Graham Brown High School

Personal Telecommunication and Electronic Media Devices Policy

At the J. Graham Brown School, it is our responsibility to prepare every student for postsecondary education. Part of preparing our students for the future is teaching them to be responsible digital citizens and to use technology appropriately. Personal telecommunication devices and electronic media devices, (Hereinafter "Personal Electronic Devices") which are defined in the *Code of Acceptable Behavior* and KRS 158.165 and 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 mature management of these personal electronic devices at school to better prepare them for postsecondary life. Students need to understand both respectful ways to use electronics, and how to make good choices when confronted with the temptation of a personal electronic device. As adults, we balance the use of these personal electronic devices with the environments with which we interact. A progressive approach to the use of personal electronic devices 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.

A Brown High School student may activate and display a personal electronic 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 personal electronic devices. This policy only applies to students enrolled in Brown High (grades 9-12) and does not apply to middle and lower school students. To ensure an appropriate academic environment inside and outside the classroom setting, students must comply with the following rules:

- The personal electronic device must be on silent at all times.
- The use of personal electronic devices in the classroom is COMPLETELY at the discretion and approval of the teacher. Charging of personal electronic devices is also at the teacher's discretion.
- Placing or receiving voice or video phone calls will be at the teacher's discretion.
- J. Graham Brown School, faculty and staff, are not responsible for any damage, loss, or theft of a personal electronic device.
- The use of camera and video functions is prohibited at all times unless clearly defined within an instructional activity and authorized by the teacher.
- The use of personal electronic devices is prohibited in detention, ISAP, or any disciplinary setting/ activity.
- Students shall comply with a teacher's/administrator's requests if there are concerns about usage at inappropriate times.
- Students shall not use a personal electronic device in any manner that disrupts the educational environment or violates the rights of others.
- Personal electronic devices may be used during class changes in the common hallways and in the cafeteria. Use of external speakers on personal electronic devices is prohibited in these areas between 8:00 am and 2:40 pm.
- External speakers or headphones may be used in the classroom when clearly defined within an instructional activity and with the authorization of the teacher.
- Students may not access, submit 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 personal electronic device or otherwise violate the JCPS Acceptable Use Policy.
- The use of personal electronic devices during ALL assessment times is prohibited, even if the student has finished his/her assessment.

J. Graham Brown High School
Personal Telecommunication and Electronic Media Devices Policy

Continued

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 as outlined in the Brown School Electronic / Telecommunications Device Guidelines (see Brown School Student Agenda- Student Requirement).

1st Reading to the SBDM Council 10-17-2013

2nd Reading to the SBDM Council 11-19-2013

Subsequent Readings and / or Revisions _____

Signature of Council Chair  Date of Approval 11-19-13