

July 2, 2014

Dear Jefferson County Board of Education,

I am writing today to ask you to approve continuing our waiver regarding the use of personal electronic devices at Fairdale High School. At Fairdale High School, it is our mission 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. We are well into the 21st century. Research repeatedly shows the importance of relevant, real-life instruction in increasing student learning.

Personal telecommunication and electronic media devices, such as cell phones, will forever be essential technology to our students. As educators preparing our students for success, we have a responsibility to utilize this technology in such a way that will benefit the education of students and increase student learning. We need to assist students with mature management of these 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 media device. As adults, we balance the use of these devices with the environments with which we interact. 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.

As with any new initiative, we have learned a great deal in year one. We are planning professional development for the first teacher days to improve the effectiveness of instructional use of cell phones. We are also considering a school-wide protocol to alert students of approved use (green), restricted use (yellow), or no use (red) upon entering each classroom. We truly believe the managed use of personal electronic devices enhances the learning process and increases student achievement. We hope you will continue to support the policy and guidelines for personal telecommunication and electronic use at Fairdale High School.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brad Weston", with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Brad Weston, Principal
Fairdale High School

We, as members of the Fairdale High School Advisory Council, approve request of a waiver from the telecommunications devices policy for implementation of the attached cell phone policy.

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May Kay

Cheryl Thomas

Aubrey Schabowsky

Shelise Smith

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Fairdale High School

Personal Telecommunication and Electronic Media Devices Policy

At Fairdale High School, it is our mission 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 student at Fairdale High School 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. 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 prohibited.
- Placing or receiving voice or video phone calls is prohibited.
- Fairdale High 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 ISAP, Time Out, or SOS for any purpose.
- 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 or headphones on personal electronic devices is prohibited in these areas between 7:40 am and 2:20 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.

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.