## Waggener High School

Jefferson County Public Schools

Shaping the Future

330 South Hubbards Lane Louisville, KY 40207-4099 (502) 485-8340 Fax: (502) 485-8140

July 14, 2014

#### Dear JCPS Board of Education:

I am writing today to request a waiver regarding the use of personal electronic devices at Waggener High Schools. 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 and electronic media devices, such as cell phones, are part of the technology that can be a benefit to the education of students, and as asset to student learning. As educators, 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 out students enjoy and use.

A copy of the policy is included with this letter. This will be Waggener's second year of implementation. We feel that the open campus approach has assisted our teachers with more relevant and creative activities in their classrooms. Further, we do believe it has had an impact on students' decision making where mature use is concerned. We truly believe the selective and appropriate use of personal electronic devices can enhance the learning process and increase student achievement. We your support of the policy and guidelines for personal telecommunication and electronic use at Waggener High School.

Sincerely,

Katy Zeitz, Principal

Waggener High School

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TO: Jefferson County Public Schools Board of Education

Waggener's Advisory Council is requesting a waiver to the JCPS Telecommunications Policy. We as the Council all agree with the waiver request.

Sincerely,

June Powell

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### **Waggener High School**

#### Personal Telecommunication and Electronic Media Devices

At Waggener High School, we believe it is our mission to make students college and career ready every day. Students surround themselves with, and interact with, personal electronic media whenever possible. Personal telecommunications devices and electronic media devices (Hereinafter "Personal Electronic Devices") are defined in the *Code of Acceptable Behavior and Discipline* and KRS 158.165 and includes, but is not limited to, cell phones, smart phones, iPads, iPods and other similar media devices. As educators, we need to assist students with mature management of these devices at school to better prepare them for the workplace and college. 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 devices with the environments we interact with every day. This progressive approach to personal electronic device 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.

A student at Waggener 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.
- Personal electronic devices may not to be used in the classroom unless authorized by the classroom teacher. Charging personal electronic devices will be at the teacher's discretion.
- Waggener 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/or authorized by school staff.
- The use of personal electronic devices is prohibited in ISAP or SOS.
- Students shall comply with the teacher's/adult's requests if there are concerns about usage at inappropriate times.
- Hallway & Cafeteria: Use of external speakers on personal electronic devices is prohibited at all times. The use of headphones is prohibited in hallways after 7:40 am.
- Students shall not use a personal electronic device in any manner that disrupts the educational environment or violates the rights of others.
- 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 any and all assessment times is prohibited, <u>regardless of</u> whether the student has finished their assessment.

If a student violates any of the rules above the personal electronic device will be confiscated by an administrator/teacher for no more than 30 days 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.