

2019-2020 Electronic Device, Cell Phone, and Internet Usage Policy

Electronic Devices, Cell Phones and Internet Usage at School

Students shall be personally and solely responsible for the maintenance, support, and security of their personal electronic device. All personal laptops are required to have updated virus protection and the latest security patches to the operating system and browser prior to connecting to the network. The district shall not assume responsibility or liability for the theft, loss, or damage to personal devices, nor does it assume responsibility for the unauthorized use of any device.

While on Board property, students are not permitted to use their own personal Wi-Fi, data plans or other types of Internet access provided by Internet service providers/carriers that is not provided by The Board of Public Education. All Internet access will be filtered and recorded.

No student shall photograph, videotape, record, or reproduce, via any audio or video means, another student or staff member on board property without the expressed prior permission of a teacher or administrator. Students are also prohibited from disrupting instruction with ringtones, music, or sound effects.

No student shall have a personal electronic device in their possession during district-wide assessments or state testing. Personal devices must be turned off completely (not simply on silent or vibrate mode) and turned in to a teacher or testing proctor.

Students are prohibited from using any electronic devices while riding on a school bus. These electronic devices include, but are not limited to cell phones, pagers, audible radios, tape or compact disc players without headphones, or any other electronic device in a manner that might interfere with the school bus communications equipment or the school bus driver's operation of the vehicle to and/or from school. (O.C.G.A 20-2-751.5).

School staff may confiscate personal electronic devices, and school administrators may search the device (See Board Policy JCAB). Students who do not comply with this regulation, or any supporting directives related to use of personal electronic devices will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action. Actions may include, but are not limited to:

1st offense: Confiscation of item for the remainder of the day. Returned to student after parent has been notified.

2nd offense: Confiscation of item for the remainder of the day. Returned to parent only and receipt for electronic device signed by parent.

3rd offense: Confiscation of item for 30 days. Returned to parent only and receipt for electronic device signed by parent.

Garrison School for the Arts requires that all students in grades 4-8 complete an electronic device user course before they are allowed to use personal devices at school. The course will be administered by our computer lab teacher at the beginning of the year. After the students successfully completes the course they will be allowed to use electronic devices at school for educational purposes with teacher permission. Devices that do not have permission to be used are to be powered off and stored in back packs.

In the event that a student uses a cell phone in a capacity other than for instructional purposes, it will be confiscated and turned into the office, parent/guardian will be notified. Repeated offenses will be subject to disciplinary action. This applies to before and after school as well. Students needing to call their parent/guardian for pick-up must use the office or teacher's phone. Personal cell phone use may be used in presence of and with permission of faculty member.