



KAWARTHA PINE RIDGE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

POLICY STATEMENT

Section: Educational Services

- **Student Welfare**

Policy Code: ES-1.6

Policy: PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES (PEDs)

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The Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board promotes and supports the educational benefits of technology use, including Personal Electronic Devices (PEDs). PEDs include, but are not limited to, laptops, Chromebooks, tablets, cellular phones, smartphones, portable audio players/recorders (iPods, MP3 players), handheld game consoles, watches, photo and/or audio devices (cameras, camcorders). Teaching and modeling the appropriate use of technology is essential to support students with understanding the positive benefits and potential and negative impacts of technology.

Existing and emerging mobile and smart technologies continue to present new opportunities and challenges. In order to ensure a positive climate for all our school communities, with the aim of improving student achievement, promoting school safety, protecting individual privacy, and developing digital citizenship, principals and vice-principals, with support from staff, are responsible for communicating expectations and monitoring the use of Personal Electronic Devices (PEDs) on school premises and during school-sanctioned activities.

As referenced in Policy/Program Memorandum No. 128, the use of personal mobile devices during instructional time is permitted under the following circumstances:

- for educational purposes, as directed by an educator,
- for health and medical purposes, and
- to support special education needs.

1. Guiding Principles

1.1 Safe, caring environments promote student success.

1.2 All students and staff have the right to attend an environment free of harassment (Board Policy No. ES-1.1, Safe, Caring and Restorative Schools).

1.3 The intentional and innovative use of technology is utilized to enhance student learning.

1.4 Personal Electronic Devices are also used to support student learning, as outlined in an [Individual Education Plan \(IEP\)](#).

2. It is an expectation that school administration include and communicate guidelines for acceptable PED usage and the associated consequences for misuse in student, staff, parent/guardian, volunteer, and visitor communications.

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3. The principal or designate may provide specific instruction to the school community regarding the acceptable use of PEDs, as outlined in the administrative regulations supporting this Board policy.
4. The Board and its schools are not responsible for lost, stolen or damaged personally owned PEDs.
5. Consequences for the inappropriate or prohibited use of PEDs will follow progressive discipline guidelines and, depending on the nature of the infraction, may result in a range of responses, in accordance with School Codes of Conduct, Ontario Safe and Accepting Schools legislation, and Board Policy No. ES-1.1, Safe, Caring and Restorative Schools, and as outlined in the administrative regulations supporting this Board policy.
6. It is at the discretion and authority of the principal or designate whether PED usage compromises or interferes with school security, personal safety, individual privacy or academic integrity.