MOBILE DEVICES IN GRADES K - 8

The Board of Education (the Board) of the Bethlehem Central School District (the District) recognizes the importance of technology and provides computers for student use within the classroom. The Board also recognizes that, whether intentional or not, mobile devices create a social, intellectual, and emotional barrier to being fully present during school and can cause disruption to the educational process, particularly in the elementary and middle school.

“Mobile devices” shall mean any cell phone, smart watch, or other personal telecommunications device.

To reduce unnecessary distraction, the display and/or use by students of mobile devices is prohibited from the start of the school day until the end of the regular school day. Such devices must be turned off and stored in a student’s backpack or locker during this time period. This prohibition includes, but is not limited to, the use of mobile devices in classrooms, libraries, common areas, restrooms and locker rooms, and includes transition times between classes, lunch periods, recess, and home base.

If students need to make a routine call during the school day, they should use phones available in the main office or counseling office.

Misuse of a mobile device under this policy will result in its confiscation until the end of the school day.

The District is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged mobile devices.

Cross-ref: 5300, Code of Conduct

Adopted date: February 26, 2020