FREEDOM
PREP ACADEMY

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# Secondary Personal Electronic Devices Policy

Policy No. 3001

**Students have no expectation of privacy with electronic devices used at school or on school sponsored outings, events, fieldtrips, etc.**

The use of electronics on Freedom Preparatory Academy (FPA) properties will adhere to the following guidelines:

FPA restricts the use of electronic devices at school. In order to maintain a secure and orderly learning environment, and to promote respect and courtesy regarding the use of electronic devices, FPA hereby establishes the following rules and regulations governing student use of electronic devices, and procedures to address student misuse of electronic devices. **The Academy is not responsible for the security and safekeeping of these items and is not financially responsible for any damage, destruction, or loss of electronic devices**. For additional expectations and procedures, please refer to the Parent-Student Handbook.

**Definitions**

"Personal Electronic device(s)" means a privately owned device that is used for audio, video, or text communication or any other type of computer or computer-like instrument. This includes devices which can record, store, transmit voice, video, text, or retrieve data from one person to another.

**Electronic Devices at School**

1. Middle School
    a. 6th grade students may only use personal electronic devices, before school, during lunch, and after school. Other times during the day, the devices must be left in the student's backpack/locker.
    b. 7th-8th grade students may use electronic devices outside of class time. During class, the devices must be left in the student's backpack/locker
2. High School (9-12 grade) students should not be using electronic devices during

class unless approved by the teacher.

3. Electronic devices may be appropriately used during lunch time and before and after school. If, however, that device causes a disturbance on school grounds, it may be confiscated.
4. Students shall not use electronic devices at any time or place for:
    a. Activities which disrupt the educational environment,
    b. Illegal activities in violation of state or federal laws or regulations,
    c. Unethical activities, such as cheating on assignments or tests,
    d. Immoral or pornographic activities,
    e. Activities which violate State or Federal and/or Board policy and procedures relating to student conduct and harassment,
    f. Activities which invade the privacy of others.
    g. Other violation(s) of school policy.
5. Exceptions to this policy may be granted by the principal for the following reasons:
    a. Medical reasons,
    b. Teacher permission (instructional use) with administrator approval,
    c. Emergency,
    d. Other reasons approved by an Administrator.
6. Consequences for Violation of this policy
    a. Teachers (employees, counselors, technicians, secretaries, other staff, etc.) may confiscate electronic devices during class time if used in violation of the above guidelines.
    b. Confiscated electronic devices may be returned to the student at the end of the school day for the first violation. For a second violation devices must be claimed by a parent or legal guardian.
    c. Refusal to surrender electronic devices upon request is considered insubordination and will result in school discipline.
    d. Misuse of electronic devices may result in school discipline such as, but not limited, to losing student privileges or suspension.
    e. Electronic equipment that has been seized may be subject to search. (see board policy #2002)
7. Other provisions

    Electronic communication devices and cameras may not be possessed, activated, or utilized in school situations where a reasonable expectation of personal privacy exists. These locations include but are not limited to locker rooms, shower rooms, restrooms, and any other areas where students or others may change clothes or be in any stage or degree of disrobing or changing clothes.

    a. Students are responsible for their own electronic devices. If devices are borrowed or loaned and misused by non-owner, device owners are jointly responsible for the misuse or policy violation(s).

**Confiscated Devices**

Confiscated electronic devices may be subject to search by administration or faculty and may be turned over to law enforcement if illegal activity is found. Continued violation of this policy may result in suspension from Freedom Preparatory Academy.

Parents or legal guardians are expected to claim a confiscated electronic device within ten (10) days of the date it was relinquished. The Academy shall not be responsible, financially, or otherwise, for any unclaimed electronic devise or monthly service charges while in the possession of the Academy. (see also Secondary Parent Student Handbook)