

Elementary Electronic Device Usage Policy

Policy No.3004

Student use of personal electronic devices at school

Definition of an “Electronic Device:” An “electronic device” means any device that is used for audio, video, text, or any other type of computer or computer-like instrument. This includes devices that can record, store, transmit voice, video, text, or retrieve data from one person to another i.e. cell phones, smart watches, and tablets including emerging technology.

Student Electronic Devices at School: To maintain a secure and orderly learning environment, and to promote respect and courtesy regarding the use of electronic devices, FPA establishes the following electronics guidelines:

1. Elementary students may not use personal electronic devices during school hours per Utah code 53G-7-226, *Utah Code Annotated 1953*. Cell phones or other electronic devices must be left in backpacks until the student leaves the school at the end of the day. This includes no personal electronic devices to be used at recess, lunch, or during any before or after school classes. Smart watches should not be used during the school day. If any device causes a disturbance on school grounds, even after school, it may be confiscated. During the day, students may use the classroom or office phone.
2. FPA is not responsible for the security and safekeeping of electronic devices and is not financially responsible for any damage, destruction, or loss of such items.
3. Students have no expectation of privacy with electronic devices used at school. Electronics may be searched based on reasonable suspicion.
4. Consequences for violations:
 - a. School staff may confiscate electronic devices during class time if used in violation of the above guidelines.
 - b. Beginning with the second offense, confiscated electronic 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 #23)

Confiscated Devices: Electronic devices may be confiscated by school personnel. When an electronic device is confiscated, the electronic device shall be taken to FPA's main office to be identified and placed in a secure area. For the first offense, students may sign it out at the end of the day. Second offense, a parent or legal guardian must sign it out. Third offense, a parent or legal guardian must sign out the device and a meeting with the administration will be required. 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. FPA shall not be responsible, financially, or otherwise, for any unclaimed or confiscated electronic device or monthly service charges while in possession of the Academy.