

FREDERICK COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS	Reg. No. 400-18
Subject: ELECTRONIC DEVICES – STUDENT USE	Issued: 5/2/07
Preparing Office: Office of the Superintendent	Amended: 5/15/19

I. Policy

II. Procedures

A. Definition

Portable electronic communication devices (hereafter referred to as electronic devices) are devices that emit an audible signal, vibrate, display a message or visual, or otherwise summons or deliver a communication on behalf of the possessor.

B. Student Possession/Use

1. Student possession and use of electronic devices on school property and at school-sponsored events on and off campus is a privilege, not a right.
2. Middle school and high school students may use devices to participate in teacher-approved activities and for educational reasons in support of Frederick County Public Schools (FCPS) curriculum for instructional purposes, such as keeping track of classroom assignments, research and other related class activities.
3. Middle school and high school student possession or use of electronic devices during the school day may be permitted if the student and parent/legal guardian accept the terms outlined on the [Device Permission Form](#) provided by the school. School system staff reserves the right to revoke privileges associated with this use under any of the following conditions:
 - a. Disrupts the learning environment or approved school activity.
 - b. Poses a threat to academic integrity.
 - c. Violates confidentiality or privacy rights of others during the school day as well as during after-school activities or the safe transportation of students.
 - d. Electronic devices with camera and recording functions may not be used to take or transfer any image or recording at any time on school premises without teacher permission.
 - e. Creates safety concerns.
 - f. Violates criminal laws.
 - g. Classroom use without teacher permission.

4. At the elementary level, use of electronic devices may be permitted with the approval of the principal. If approved, all provisions of this regulation will apply.

5. Student Tracking Safety Devices

The use of Student Tracking Safety Devices is prohibited on FCPS property. In the event of medical necessity, parents should seek permission from the school principal for his/her child to wear a student tracking safety device during the school day. Requests shall be reviewed by the principal and approved by the Department of Technology Infrastructure. All approved exceptions must meet the following conditions:

- a. The device is managed by the parent, and the parent recognizes and accepts that FCPS is not liable for any damage or loss of the device.
- b. The parent acknowledges in writing that they understand under Maryland wiretap and privacy laws they are not permitted to listen in or record others, and they affirm the listening device will be disabled during the school day or at school related activities.
- c. FCPS reserves the right to rescind the approval if use proves to be disruptive to the educational environment or infringes on the rights of others.
- d. The parent has signed and accepted the terms and conditions of the Device Permission Form, provided as Exhibit 1 of this regulation.

- C. Theft/Damage Disclaimer

FCPS is not responsible for theft or damage to the electronic device. Students are encouraged to record a device's serial number to have available in case of theft, which is a helpful tool when reporting the information to law enforcement.

- D. Students found to be in violation of this regulation are subject to disciplinary action in accordance with FCPS Regulation 400-08 and acceptable use of digital networks and online resources in accordance with FCPS Regulation 400-73.
- E. A school administrator reserves the right to take temporary possession of an electronic device during a student discipline investigation to ensure the integrity of the fact-finding process.

Approved:

Original signed by

Theresa R. Alban
Superintendent