

Book	Policy Manual
Section	200 Pupils
Title	Electronic Devices
Number	237
Status	Active
Adopted	April 26, 2010
Last Revised	February 22, 2016

### **Purpose**

The Board adopts this policy in order to maintain an educational environment that is safe and secure for district students and employees.

### **Definition**

**Electronic devices** shall include all devices that can take photographs; record audio or video data; store, transmit or receive messages or images; or provide a wireless, unfiltered connection to the Internet. Examples of these electronic devices include, but shall not be limited to, radios, CD players, MP3 players, DVD players, handheld game consoles, Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs), tablets, smartphones, and laptop computers, as well as any new technology developed with similar capabilities.

### **Authority**

The Board prohibits **use of** electronic devices by students during the school day in district buildings; on district property; on district buses and vehicles; during the time students are under the supervision of the district; and in locker rooms, bathrooms, health suites and other changing areas at any time. Electronic devices are allowed to be used by students under the direction of Hanover Public School District staff.[\[1\]](#)

At no time may a student use a device that uses an unfiltered connection to the Internet.

The Board prohibits **possession of** laser pointers and attachments and telephone paging devices/beepers by students in district buildings; on district property; on district buses and vehicles; and at school-sponsored activities.[\[2\]](#)

The district shall not be liable for the loss, damage or misuse of any electronic device.

### **Electronic Images and Photographs**

The Board prohibits the taking, storing, disseminating, transferring, viewing, or sharing of obscene, pornographic, lewd, or otherwise illegal images or photographs, whether by electronic data transfer or other means, including but not limited to texting and e-mailing.

Because such violations may constitute a crime under state and/or federal law, the district may report such conduct to state and/or federal law enforcement agencies. Therefore, staff is required to contact their supervisor immediately with any knowledge or suspicion of the above.

Such prohibited activity shall also apply to student conduct that occurs off school property if:

1. There is a nexus between the proximity or timing of the conduct in relation to the student's attendance at school or school-sponsored activities.
2. The student is a member of an extracurricular activity and has been notified that particular off-campus conduct could result in exclusion from such activities.[\[3\]](#)[\[5\]](#)
3. The conduct has a direct nexus to attendance at school or a school-sponsored activity, such

as an agreement made on school property to complete a transaction outside of school that would violate the Code of Student Conduct.[4]

### **Delegation of Responsibility**

The Superintendent or designee shall annually notify students, parents/guardians and employees about the Board's electronic device policy.

### **Guidelines**

Violations of this policy by a student may result in disciplinary action, including but not limited to detention, suspension, expulsion, police referral, and/or confiscation of the electronic device.

### **Exceptions**

The building administrator may grant approval for possession and use of an electronic device by a student for the following reasons:

1. Health, safety or emergency reasons.
2. An individualized education program (IEP).[6]
3. Classroom or instructional-related activities.
4. Other reasons determined appropriate by the building principal.

The building administrator may grant approval for possession and use of a telephone paging device/beeper by a student for the following reasons:[2]

1. Student is a member of a volunteer fire company, ambulance or rescue squad.
2. Student has a need due to the medical condition of an immediate family member.
3. Other reasons determined appropriate by the building principal.

Legal

[1. 24 P.S. 510](#)

[2. 24 P.S. 1317.1](#)

3. Pol. 122

4. Pol. 218

5. Pol. 123

6. Pol. 113

Pol. 233

Pol. 815