

Adopted 7/9/2012
Revised _____

Policy 540

540 USE OF CELLULAR PHONES, DIGITAL IMAGING DEVICES AND OTHER PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to set forth expectations for appropriate use of existing and emerging technologies which students may possess, including but not limited to cellular phones, digital picture/video cameras and/or camera phones, personal digital assistants (PDAs), iPods, MP3s, pagers and other personal electronic devices capable of transmitting data or images.

GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The Brainerd Public School District holds high expectations for staff and student behavior, academic integrity and responsible use of existing and emerging technologies, such as cellular phones, digital picture/video cameras and/or phones and other personal electronic devices capable of capturing and/or transmitting data or images. Students who possess and/or use such devices at school or school sponsored events shall demonstrate the greatest respect for the educational environment and the rights and privacy of all individuals within the school community.

STANDARDS FOR RESPONSIBLE USE AT SCHOOL, ON BUSES OR AT SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

I. Respect for the educational environment:

1. Cellular phones and other personal electronic devices, when not being used (as part of a teacher led classroom activity) in class, shall be silenced and kept out of sight during instructional time.
 - a. Students shall not use any electronic device that in any way disrupts or detracts from the educational environment.
 - b. Students will not be allowed to leave class in response to any electronic devices.
 - c. Cellular phones and other devices may be used appropriately and respectfully before and after classes, in common areas—such as near lockers or the cafeteria, or outside on school grounds.

II. Respect for privacy rights:

1. Students shall not photograph or videotape other individuals at school or at school sponsored activities without their knowledge and consent, except for activities considered to be in the public arena such as sporting events or public performances.

1. Staff & students shall not e-mail, post to the Internet, or other otherwise electronically transmit images of other individuals taken at school without their expressed written consent.
2. Use of cellular phones or other personal electronic devices is strictly prohibited in locker rooms, restrooms and other area as designated by Administration.

III. **Ensuring academic integrity:** Students shall not use cellular phones or other electronic devices in any way that may cause a teacher or staff member to question whether the student may be cheating on tests or academic work or violating copyright policy.

IV. **Compliance with Other District Policies:** Use of cellular phones or other personal electronic devices must not violate any other District policies, including those regarding student privacy, copyright, cheating, plagiarism, civility, student code of conduct, electronic technologies acceptable use, or harassment. If a violation occurs involving more than one District policy, consequences for each policy will apply.

DISSEMINATION OF POLICY

Portions of this policy shall be included in the Student/Parent Handbook, posted to the District Web site under School Board Policy, and otherwise distributed upon request.