Section 22. Weapons. (AG)

The Board of Education prohibits students from possessing, storing, making, or using a weapon in any setting that is under the control and supervision of the District for the purpose of school activities approved and authorized by the District including, but not limited to, property leased, owned, or contracted for by the District, a school-sponsored event, including athletic events or in a District vehicle without the permission of the Superintendent or designee.

The term "weapon" means any object which is intended to be used to inflict serious bodily harm or property damage, as well as endangering the health and safety of persons.

Policy exceptions include:

A. items pre-approved by the building principal as part of a class or individual presentation under adult supervision, if used for the purpose and in the manner approved; (Working firearms and any ammunition will never be approved as part of a presentation.)

B. theatrical props used in appropriate settings.

The Superintendent shall issue administrative guidelines to ensure the proper implementation of this Policy.

This sections supplements section 380.11a of the Revised School Code that defines the term "dangerous weapon" as a firearm, dagger, dirk, stiletto, knife with blade of over 3 inches in length, pocket knife open by a mechanical device, iron bar, or brass knuckles.

Section 23. Wireless Communication Devices and Personal Electronic Devices. (Revised: 5/11/2026)

The Board is committed to providing a focused, safe, and academically rigorous learning environment. Research and classroom experience demonstrate that student use of Wireless Communication Devices ("WCD") during instructional time disrupts learning, reduces engagement, and negatively impacts academic performance and mental health. The purpose of this policy is to eliminate distractions during instructional time while maintaining appropriate access for safety, health, and educational needs.

The Superintendent is authorized to prepare administrative guidelines necessary to ensure effective implementation of this policy.

Definitions

A "wireless communication device" is defined by law as "an electronic device capable of, but not limited to, text messaging, voice communication, entertainment, navigation, accessing the internet, sending and receiving photos and videos, or producing email. Wireless communications device does not include a basic telephone."

A "basic telephone" is defined by law as "a device primarily used for voice calling that cannot support third-party applications, except those preinstalled, and does not support access to internet platforms via applications or web browsers."

"School grounds" is defined by law as "a building, playing field, or property used for school purposes to impart instruction to children or used for functions and events sponsored by a school. School grounds does not include a building used primarily for adult education or college extension courses."

"Instructional time" is defined in this policy as beginning with the first bell of the school day and ending with the last bell of the school day. Each building is to follow its posted bell schedule for the purposes of defining instructional time.

Students may use WCDs while riding to and from school on a school bus or other Board-provided vehicle at the driver's or chaperone's (i.e., coach or advisor's) discretion. Students are permitted to use WCDs during overnight trips provided that the use of WCDs do not interfere with instruction or the District's educational mission in conducting the overnight trip. School officials overseeing overnight trips maintain discretion in setting reasonable rules during overnight trips.

Uses of Wireless Communication Devices

Subject to the exemptions identified in this policy below, students are prohibited from using a WCD on school grounds during the school day. WCDs must be turned off or silenced during the school day and stored out of sight (e.g., in backpack, locker, or designated storage area).

Parents/guardians who need to contact a student during instructional time may call the school's main office. Students who need to contact a parent/guardian during instructional must receive permission to use a District phone, including classroom phones or the main office phone.

Other Personal Electronic Devices

Other non-District owned personal electronic devices ("PED"), such as computers, tablets (e.g., iPads and similar devices), electronic readers ("e-readers," e.g., Kindles and similar devices), telephone paging devices, smart watch (e.g., beepers or pagers), and/or other web-enabled devices of any type, are subject to building expectations and protocol, including, but not limited to, the Student Code of Conduct.

Exemptions

Exemptions to this policy are permitted only under the following circumstances:

• Medically necessary devices for documented medical reasons (e.g., diabetes monitoring)

• District-owned devices that are issued to students for instructional purposes, such as tablets and laptops

• Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) and 504 Plans that include a device as an accommodation as part of the plan and the device is used in accordance with the plan

• District-designated devices that are not owned by the District but designated by the administration for acceptable use and only to the extent authorized

• Emergency situations as defined in the District's Emergency Operations Plan. Students must not interfere with school emergency protocols or the actions of first responders and must not endanger students or faculty.

Enforcement of Policy

Staff members are authorized to enforce this policy and shall do so consistently and respectfully. Violations of this policy will be enforced in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct. Penalties for violating this policy may include device confiscation, documented warning, parent/guardian notification, and progressive discipline in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct. Refusal to surrender a device when directed by staff may result in additional disciplinary action.

Privacy and Liability

The District is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damages personal devices. School officials may investigate violations of this policy as deemed necessary and appropriate. Investigations must be conducted consistent with District policies and applicable law including, but not limited to, Michigan's Internet Privacy Protection Act (IPPA). The IPPA prohibits educational institutions from requesting access to or information allowing access to student personal internet accounts (such as a social media platform) and disciplining or otherwise penalizing students for failing to grant access or information allowing access to those accounts.

Section 24. Closed Campus

The District shall maintain a closed campus for all schools.

Section 25. Exceptions

The high school principal may offer an exception to the closed campus policy to high school students.

Any motorized vehicles driven to school by students must remain on the school property unless specific permission is granted by the principal due to a need related directly to the student's academic program (examples: travel to a career experience placement or travel to a junior college, college, or university for purposes of taking dual enrollment classes).

The Superintendent may suspend the exceptions program at any time for any cause.

Section 26. Student Memorials. (AG)

The Board acknowledges the need for students to memorialize a student death.

The Superintendent shall issue administrative guidelines to ensure the proper implementation of this Policy.