

Staff Welfare

Limitations on Wireless Devices

The Board of Education of the Pettis County R-V School District recognizes that staff persons have access to an increasing amount of technological resources which allows them to communicate with District personnel and others while commuting between locations. However, it is also well documented that the use of cell phones, laptop computers, pagers, and pocket personal computers can create hazardous conditions while driving. The Board of Education adopts this policy with the intention to regulate the use of wireless devices while operating a vehicle of the District or while an employee is conducting business on behalf of the District, regardless of the vehicle being used.

A. Definitions

Under this policy, the term “wireless device” includes cellular phones (whether analog or digital), camera phones, beepers, pagers, text messaging devices, and portable computers such as laptops, notebooks, and PDA’s that are used as telecommunication devices or to transmit text messages, as well as any other wireless electronic communication devices. This policy does not prohibit school bus drivers from utilizing the two-way radios as provided on their school buses. However, caution should be exercised to minimize the use of the radio so as to limit distractions to the drivers.

B. Expectations

The District expects that should an employee of the District be operating a District vehicle or another vehicle while conducting business for the District that they will refrain from the use of wireless devices while driving the vehicle. Should they receive a phone call for example, they would be expected to pull to the side of the road or to a safe area prior to continuing a conversation.

C. Consequences for Violation

Staff persons in violation of the above-described prohibition on wireless devices shall be subject to disciplinary action as deemed appropriate. The revocation of privileges to use District vehicles can be initiated if necessary.

Adopted by the Pettis County R-V Board of Education on January 20, 2005
Ron Higgins, Board President Matt Powell, Board Secretary