



Possession of Wireless Communication Devices (WCDs)

In order to maintain a learning environment that is safe and optimal for student performance, students are prohibited from using Wireless Electronic Communication Devices (**WECD**), (including but not limited to; cell phones, smart watches, ear phones) are prohibited from student use during instructional hours. Instructional hours are defined as 7:55 AM - 2:50 PM. **All WECD must be powered off and left in a student's locker.**

Reasonable suspicion that a communication device has been used to violate District policies or administrative guidelines shall be subject to disciplinary action and may result in the communication device being confiscated. Elementary students in grades Y5-5 must keep all cell phones (WCDs) off and out of sight during school hours.

During PE classes, students are not allowed to have cell phones in their possession. Cell phones **should never** be on in the locker room or any restroom. All violations and resulting disciplinary actions are cumulative from day one of each school year.

School personnel reserve the right to view or listen to content contained on any electronic device. Viewing, listening to, or sharing content inappropriate for an educational setting, as determined by the administration, may result in the student receiving any of the disciplinary actions listed above.

This policy was based upon the following concerns that school districts must deal with:

- A. Personal electronic devices allow students to be connected to every resource in world.
- B. Cell phone and wireless technology has expanded the concern beyond simple, annoying telephone rings to text messaging, digital photographs, and video and Internet usage.
- C. Cell phones and other electronic devices have the ability to:
 - distract from and disrupt the educational process.
 - store information that can be used to cheat on tests and assignments.
 - photograph and upload inappropriate pictures of self and others.
 - be used to harass and bully others

The Sand Creek Community School cannot be responsible for any lost or stolen personal electronic devices. The choice to use these expensive personal electronic devices during any time is at the student's own risk.

The school prohibits the use of any video device from any restroom, locker room or other location where students and staff "have a reasonable expectation of privacy." A student improperly using any device to take or transmit images will face disciplinary action.

"Sexting" is prohibited at any time on school property or at school functions. Sexting is the electronic transmission of sexual messages or pictures, usually through cell phone text messaging. Such conduct not only is potentially dangerous for the involved students, but can lead to unwanted exposure of the messages and images to others, and could result in criminal violations related to the transmission or

possession of child pornography. Such conduct will be subject to discipline and possible confiscation of the WCD. Law enforcement may be contacted if necessary.

Taking or transmitting images or messages during testing is also prohibited. If a student is caught transmitting images or messages during testing, s/he will fail the exam. S/He also faces automatic withdrawal from the class depending on the severity of the incident. Loss of privileges is an accompanying penalty, and expulsion is a possibility, even on the first offense.

<u>Violation</u>	<u>Penalty</u>
Electronic Device Illegal possession or use of during school hours is prohibited	1 st offense: Electronic device will be confiscated and turned into the office where it will be noted in the students discipline file as a violation of the Electronic Device Policy. The device will be returned to the student at the end of the day.
	2 nd offense: Same as above plus: Parent and student will be told that the next violation would mean an in-school detention
	3 rd offense: Same as above plus an in school detention. The parent and student will also be warned that the next violation can lead to an OSS.
	Repeated offenses: Same as above plus: Parent and student may be asked to leave the device at home or turn it in daily to the main office for a determined period of time. If violations continue, a student may be suspended up to 3 days. A Parent or Guardian may be required to pick up the device at the end of the day