

## **Cell Phone Policy**

Rochester School District is committed to delivering high quality teaching and maximizing student learning. To minimize distractions and promote full engagement with the school experience, this policy restricts student use of personal communication devices during the school day. Students must keep cell phones stored away or in designated locations, throughout the entire school day. The school day is defined as when the first bell rings to start instructional time until dismissal bell rings at the end of the school day. Phones may not be used during lunch, breaks, or passing periods.

### **Restrictions**

Student cell phones may be used before the school day begins and after school dismissal only. Approved exceptions are determined by the superintendent or their designee with respect to student *medical*, disability, or language proficiency needs.

### **Expectations:**

Phones must remain off and stored out of sight or in designated areas, as determined by school administration. Phone use is strictly prohibited during school hours, including lunch, passing periods, and breaks. Violations will result in disciplinary action.

In all cases, Rochester School District will not be responsible for loss, damage or theft of any electronic communication device brought to the school.

### **Exemptions**

School district policies may not restrict the use of a personal communication device by a student with a disability when such use is specified in the student's individualized education program (IEP), in a plan created under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. § 794, in a medical plan, or when necessary to provide emergent multilingual students with appropriate language access programs and services as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

### **Violations**

Violations of this policy will be addressed in accordance with the District's Student Code of Conduct and outlined in the Student Handbook.

The school may, within the limits of RSA 189:70, inspect or review a student's personal electronic device if there is reasonable suspicion that the student has violated board policies, regulations, school rules, or engaged in other misconduct while using the device.

### **Policy Review**

The Superintendent shall annually review this policy in collaboration with parents and teachers.

Adopted: September 11, 2025