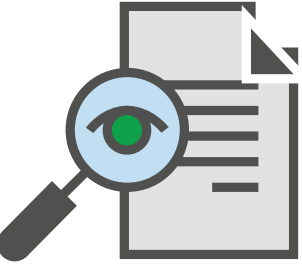
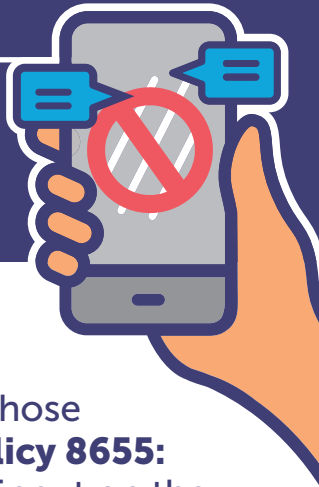




# JUST THE FACTS

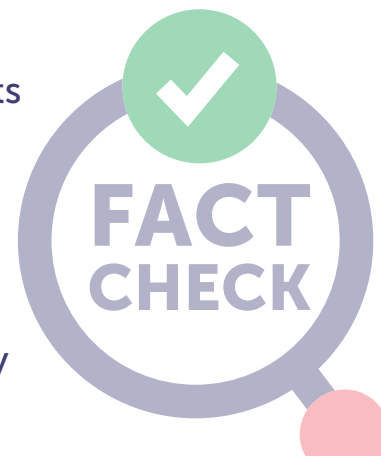
## Policy 8655: Student Personal Device Use



In April 2025, a new Virginia state law was passed, **restricting the use of personal student technology for students** in all grades during the school day, except for those with documented accommodations. To update **LCPS Policy 8655: Student Personal Device Use**, the community provided input on the policy, and LCPS staff made adjustments to the policy based on the feedback and state law. The School Board passed the updated Policy 8655 in December 2025, with implementation across all schools starting in January 2026. *Read [Policy 8655: Student Personal Device Use](#).*

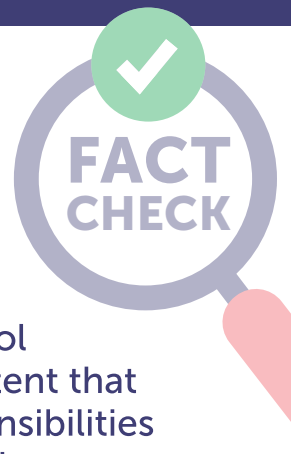
### What this means for students:

- During school hours, all internet-connected **devices must be turned off and stored away**. These include laptops, Macs, smart watches, earbuds, personal gaming devices, and **any device that can connect to the internet** and wirelessly collect, process, and transmit data.
- Students across all grade levels are **not permitted to use personal devices from the first bell to the last bell**, which means from the start of the school day until the dismissal bell rings at the end of the school day. "Bell to bell" includes lunch and time in between class periods.
- Students **are permitted to use personal devices** on school property **before the first bell rings** at the start of the school day or **after the dismissal bell rings** at the end of the school day.
- Student personal devices are only permitted to use the LCPS-OPEN wireless network and are prohibited from accessing any other internal LCPS network, wired or wireless.
- Photography, audio, or video recording is prohibited in changing areas, locker rooms, clinics, or restrooms. Students are prohibited from using phones, tablets, and other personal devices in these areas, except in cases of medical necessity or emergency.
- Only students with documented accommodations for an Individualized Education Plan, Section 504 Plan, Individualized Health Care Plan, or Limited English Proficiency Plan may possess and use a cell phone or smart device on





school property to either monitor or address a health concern or as an accommodation or assistive technology support.



### **Content and Social Media:**

- All student personal devices used within the school or at school functions must be free from any content that would violate the LCPS Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook for Families, the Student Code of Conduct, or Policy 8655.
- Inappropriate use of social media, including images, text messages, or videos, shall not be permitted at any time on school property or during a school-sponsored activity, including while using LCPS school transportation.

- **“Cyberbullying,”** defined as “bullying that occurs through the use of technology, through cell phones and other electronic devices or technology capable of accessing the Internet,” will not be tolerated in any form.



### **Contact in Case of Emergency:**

LCPS recognizes parents need to know how to contact their child in case of an emergency. In the event of an emergency, parents may contact their child’s school’s main office.

### **How can you prepare for this adjustment?**

- Remind students that they can use their devices before and after school, including while on the bus.
- Ensure that students understand your expectations for storing and managing their devices.
- Ensure your contact information is up-to-date in ParentVUE. It will serve as the primary source of information should the school need to contact you.
- The school may need to contact you if your child visits the school nurse or experiences another emergency.



- Please instruct daytime contacts to answer a call from the school.
- Students may use the office phone to contact you for an important reason.
- Ensure your student knows your daytime phone number.

*The student is solely responsible for their personal devices. The school and its staff are not responsible for loss, theft, or damage of any personal technology.*