

## PERSONAL TELECOMMUNICATION/ELECTRONIC DEVICES

### **RATIONALE**

East Jessamine High School seeks to achieve a balance that recognizes student wishes to have reasonable access to personally owned devices (PODs) (cell phones, smart phones, tablet devices, laptop computers, MP3players, Kindles, etc.) while maintaining a strong educational focus in classrooms. In an era of rapidly expanding technology, we recognize that part of our mission is to teach responsible use of these technologies (digital citizenship). This involves defining times in which these devices may and may not be used and also providing opportunities for using these devices in ways that enhance learning.

### **GUIDELINES**

Personal Telecommunications device, as defined by law, means a device that emits an audible signal, vibrates, displays a message, or otherwise summons or delivers a communication to the possessor, including, but not limited to, a paging device, a cellular telephone.

This policy shall also apply to such items as a personal digital assistant, IPOD, MP3 Player, cameras and photographic devices.

During all non-instructional time, PODs MAY be used in a **responsible** manner. Non-instructional time is defined as before 8:50, after 3:50, passing time in the hallways (not classrooms), and lunch. Use of such devices during these times must not result in, or contribute to, the disruption of the school environment or educational mission. Devices may not be used to broadcast music. If students are found to be using their device irresponsibly, the device will be confiscated.

During all instructional time, PODs may only be used for **academic purposes** with specific permission from the teacher. All such devices must be turned off and kept out of sight in the student's backpack, purse, pocket etc. Students in violation (devices that are in use, heard, or seen even if turned off) will have their device confiscated. Students who have their device out during a test or quiz are subject to receiving consequences under plagiarism.

Students are responsible for the devices they bring to school. The District shall not be responsible for loss, theft, or destruction of devices brought on to school property.

Students shall not use personal telecommunication or similar electronic devices in a manner that would violate the District's Acceptable Use policy or procedures in the District's Student/Parent Handbook.

### **CONSEQUENCES**

1<sup>st</sup> offense: The POD is confiscated and brought to the office. A disciplinary referral is written. The student or parent/guardian may pick up the property at the end of the following school day.

2<sup>nd</sup> offense: The POD is confiscated and brought to the office. A disciplinary referral is written. The property will remain in the office for one week and is to then be picked up by the student or a parent/guardian.

3<sup>rd</sup> offense: The POD is confiscated and brought to the office. A disciplinary referral is written. The property will remain in the office for the remainder of the year and may be picked up by the student or parent/guardian on the last day of school.

**\*Failure to turn the cell phone over will be considered defiance of authority and will result in Suspension.**

**\*In case of an emergency, parents should call the front office rather than calling the student's cell phone.**