

George Jenkins High School

Electronic Device Policy 2023-2024

Rationale: A specific, clear, campus-wide policy for the use of personal electronic devices in classrooms is a necessary component in ensuring that instructional time, academic integrity, and student engagement are maximized throughout the school day.

*Polk County Public Schools has adopted a 1:1 student device initiative, where every student is provided a laptop to take home and bring to school each day. The 1:1 device provided by the school will be used in class, as directed by the teacher, and is the only approved device that may be used during instructional time.

**Polk County Public Schools is no longer a Bring Your Own Device District and, as a result, personal student laptops and tablets may not be used on campus. Students will not be provided access to Wifi for any personal device (excluding their school-assigned 1:1 laptop). The use of a VPN or any attempt to bypass the district filter and/or security protocol will warrant disciplinary action.

***Personal electronic devices will be referred to as 'cell phones' in this policy. **The term 'cell phone' shall refer to all cell phones, earbuds, tablets, laptops or any other personal device with internet or Bluetooth capability.**

Procedure

1. As soon as a student enters his teacher's classroom for his assigned class period, he must place his cell phone and other electronic devices in his backpack or pocket. The cell phone is to remain in the backpack/pocket, in the possession of the student, for the duration of the class period. The cell phone is to be set to silent or turned off in the classroom.
2. It is George Jenkins' policy that students are not permitted to listen to music, watch personal videos, visit social media sites/apps, play games, or consult the time on their phones during the class period, including ENN/Home Room time, announcements, the last ten minutes of class, etc.
3. Students are permitted to access their phones before/after school, at lunch, and during the transition from one class period to the next.

Consequences

1. If a student refuses to put his phone in his backpack or pocket as soon as he enters the classroom, the student will be referred to the Choice Room.
2. If a student takes his phone out of his backpack or pocket during the class period, he will be referred to the Choice Room.
3. If a student argues with the teacher/staff or otherwise detracts from the instructional class period due to accessing his electronic device or due to the device ringing/vibrating/etc., the student will be referred to the Choice Room.
4. Students referred to the Choice Room for electronic device infractions will be subject to the same progressive discipline measures as students sent to the Choice Room for other infractions.

Special Considerations

1. If a student encounters an emergency that requires the use of his phone, the teacher/staff may grant the student permission to step outside of the classroom and use his phone.
2. If, upon entering the room, the student says that he does not have a phone to put in his backpack or pocket, the teacher will not ask any further questions. However, the student will immediately be referred to the Choice Room if the teacher/staff observes the student in possession of a phone at any point during the rest of the class period.
3. When the teacher grants the student permission to leave the classroom, the student *may* take the phone with him but will immediately place the phone back into his backpack or pocket upon his return.