



## Personal Electronic Devices Policy

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Date Approved: 01/09

Projected Review Date: 01/12

**Responsibility:** Superintendent (Safe Schools)

**Value Statement:**

The Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board values a safe, caring, and orderly environment with a focus on learning and teaching.

**Guiding Principles / Strategic Direction:**

1. Safe, caring, and orderly environments promote student achievement.
2. All students and staff have the right to attend a workplace free of harassment.
3. Personal Electronic Devices eg. cell phones, can provide a safety net for students and staff.
4. Innovative technology can promote improved/enhanced instruction.
5. Assistive Personal Electronic Devices are an identified requirement in individual educational plans for some students.

**Policy Objectives:**

1. To acknowledge the educational benefits of technology.
2. To provide a clear rationale for unacceptable use of Personal Electronic Devices.
3. To recognize the value of appropriate use of Personal Electronic Devices in support of learning.
4. To support the integrity of one's right to privacy through the regulated use of Personal Electronic Devices.
5. To set parameters for the use of Personal Electronic Devices in the school / learning environment.
6. To clearly differentiate between Personal Electronic Devices supplied by the school, in the learning environment, for educational purposes and student / non-school supplied Personal Electronic Devices.

### **A Statement of Intended Outcome:**

The Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board maintains a safe, caring, and orderly environment, which promotes and supports the educational benefits of technology use, while reducing the negative impact of this same technology

Teaching and modeling the appropriate use of technology are the most effective methods of helping students to understand both the positive and negative impacts of technology.

### **The Action Required:**

1. The stipulations of this policy and associated procedures will be incorporated into the Board and each school's Codes of Conduct.
2. The Board and schools will communicate the purpose of the policy to students, parents/guardians, and staff.
3. Students, parents, school staff, other Board personnel, contractors, and visitors are expected to comply with, and model the policy in day-to-day operations.

### **Key Measures of Success:**

1. Ensure that appropriate use of technology is taught in all schools/grades.
2. Ensure that the expectations and responsibilities in this policy are included in each school's Safe Schools Policy.
3. Include PED information in student and staff agendas, media studies, and in the teaching of the HWDSB Character Builds attributes.
4. Reduced incidents of inappropriate use of Personal Electronic Devices as recorded by school administrators.

### **References to Related Policies and Regulations**

Education Act: Regulation 298.11(1a,b)) (Duties of a Principal)  
Education Act: Part X111 (Safe Schools)  
An Act to Amend the Education Act in respect of behaviour, discipline, and safety  
PPM 128 The Provincial Code of Conduct and School Board Codes of Conduct  
PPM 144 Bullying Prevention and Intervention  
Equity Policy  
Respectful Working and Learning Environments  
Harassment Policy  
Suspension Policy  
Expulsion Policy