

STUDENTS

STUDENT USE OF PERSONAL INTERNET ENABLED DEVICES

I. Statement of Policy

The General Brown Central School District (the District) believes in the importance of having spaces that encourage sustained attention and focus on learning and instruction. The use and possession of Personal Internet-Enabled Devices during the school day interferes with the ability of students to learn and engage with their teachers, staff, and fellow students. The District will not be liable for loss, theft, or damage to Personal Internet-Enabled Devices.

II. Definitions

- A. Personal Internet-Enabled Device - any smartphone, tablet, smartwatch, or other device capable of connecting to the Internet and enabling the user to access content on the Internet, including social media applications.
- B. School day - all instructional and non-instructional time including but not limited to homeroom periods, lunch, recess, study halls, field trips, and passing times.
- C. School grounds - in or on or within any building, structure, athletic playing field, playground, or land contained within the real property boundary line of a district elementary, intermediate, junior high, vocational, or high school, a charter school, or a board of cooperative educational services facility.

III. Prohibition of Personal Internet-Enabled Devices in School

The use of Personal Internet-Enabled Devices by students during the school day is prohibited.

IV. Exceptions

- A. This Policy is not violated when students are authorized to use a Personal Internet-Enabled Device in the following situation(s):
 - 1. The student has been authorized by the Building Principal or the District to use a Personal Internet-Enabled Device for educational purposes during instructional time;
 - 2. Where the use is necessary to manage the student's medical condition;

POLICY

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3. In the event of an emergency;
 4. Where the use of a Personal Internet-Enabled Device is part of the student's Individual Education Plan (IEP) or 504 Plan;
 5. Where it is needed for translation purposes.
 6. On a case-by-case basis, upon review and determination by the superintendent or designee, who is routinely responsible for the care and well-being of a family member; or
 7. Where otherwise required by law.
- B. Students are authorized to have access to simple cellphones (i.e., phones without internet capability or access).
- V. Consequences for Violations of this Policy
- A. The consequences for violation(s) of this Policy will be consistent with the Code of Conduct. However, the suspension of a student is not permitted if the sole grounds for the suspension is that the student accessed a Personal Internet-Enabled Device in violation of this Policy.
- VI. Contact During the School Day
- Parents/Persons in parental relation may contact their student(s) during the school day in the following manner:
- Contact the Principal's Office for general matters (for all matters)
 - Contact the Nurse's Office for calls related to a student's medical needs.
 - Contact the School Counselor's Office.
- VII. Storing Students' Internet-Enabled Devices
- Devices must be powered off, out of sight, and stored in lockers, a locked vehicle, or other designated areas as determined by building administration.
- VIII. Implementation

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The Superintendent or their designee shall develop any Regulations or internal procedures that may be necessary to implement this Policy.

IX. Required Notifications

- A. A copy of this Policy shall be posted in a clearly visible and accessible location on the District website.
- B. The District shall provide a translation of this Policy upon request of a student or parent/person in parental relation in accordance with the law.
- C. Parents/Persons in Parental Relation will be notified in writing of the methods they can use to contact their student(s) during the school day, as outlined in Section VI of this Policy. This notification will occur at the beginning of each school year and upon enrollment.

X. Annual Reporting

On September 1, 2026, and every September 1 thereafter, the District shall publish, on its website, an annual report that details the enforcement of this Policy during the prior school year. This report must include:

- A. Non-identifiable demographic data of students who have faced disciplinary action for non-compliance with this Policy.
- B. An analysis of any demographic disparities in enforcement.
- C. If a statistically significant disparate enforcement impact is identified, such report shall include a mitigation action plan.

Central/City School District/UFSD/Board of Cooperative Educational Services

Legal Ref: NYS Education Law §2803

Cross Ref: Code of Conduct; Athletic Code of Conduct; 8270, Purpose, Use, and Administration of District Digital Information Systems

First Read: 7/1/2025

Adopted: _____