

Electronic Communication Devices Policy

The Merton Community School District recognizes the legitimate safety purpose that students and parents have in providing students with cellular phones, pagers, and other two-way communication devices. The Merton Community School District also recognizes the legitimate educational right that students have to learn and engage in school activities without distraction or disruption from the use of two-way communication devices.

Policy Guidelines Electronic Communication Devices

1. During the school day, students are prohibited from using an electronic paging or two-way communication device while in school buildings or attending school activities. Students who are in possession of an electronic paging or two-way communication device must store the equipment in their locker or vehicle during the school day, or with their personal belongings during school activities (e.g., field trips, co-curriculars, school dances). Stored electronic paging or two-way communication devices must be programmed to a silent mode so as not to disrupt the educational environment.
2. Principals and Staff are authorized to establish school rules and acceptable use guidelines for limited, non-disruptive use of an electronic communication device during the school day in the school building or during school activities for safety, medical, or other legitimate educational uses. Decisions on requests for an exception to this prohibition will be made on a case-by-case basis by the building principal in consultation with the district administrator/designee. The use of electronic communication or camera devices shall not be used in areas where one would reasonably expect privacy, i.e. locker rooms, bathrooms, etc.
3. Violation of this policy by students will result in disciplinary action which may include: application of school disciplinary practices and procedures; notification of law enforcement officials; notification of parents/guardians or legal custodians; notification of the activities director and/or co-curricular coaches/advisors; notification of the district superintendent or designee; suspension from school; recommendation for expulsion.
4. The school district shall annually provide each student enrolled in the school district with a copy of the rules related to this policy.

Wis. Statutes: Wisconsin State Statute 18.258

Ref: Policy Guidelines Electronic Communication Devices

Adopted: May 15, 2006