

ÉLJHS Student Personal Electronic Device Policy

Personal electronic devices include smartphones, earbuds, tablets, smart watches, and hand-held video game consoles.

Vision:

By implementing this policy, ÉLJHS aspires to significantly enhance student learning. ÉLJHS is committed to being a safe and caring school. It is our goal to provide students with a distraction-free and focused learning environment, one in which students can focus on the task at hand. ÉLJHS remains committed to better prepare students for the expectations of their future working environments.

Rationale:

Student cell phone use has become an increasing concern in the classroom. The 21st century learner can be overwhelmed with new electronic distractions while in the busy school environment. ÉLJHS is deeply concerned with the impact of students bringing smartphones and other personal devices into the classroom. Some of these concerns include:

- Students being unable to concentrate on their learning while in possession of a smartphone.
- The constant distractions of alerts, text messages, phone calls, social media notifications, and games.
- Students leaving class to receive personal phone calls or respond to messages.
- Photos and videos being secretly taken that breach the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act, BGSD acceptable technology use policies, and compromise classroom security (ex. examinations, class discussions).
- The increased frequency of cyber-bullying through social media applications.
- The increased stress and anxiety that students may endure due to relational aggression that occurs on electronic devices.
- An increase of student addiction to smartphone technology.
- ÉLJHS is committed to providing students with school Chromebooks whenever required for learning purposes, thus, cell phones are not required during class time.

ÉLJHS Classroom Policies:

- Students are to place all of their devices in their lockers during learning time. This includes smartwatches, cell phones and earbuds.
- Students will be permitted the use of personal electronic devices before school, during breaks, during the lunch hour, on school busses, and after school.
- Students must bring their own personal calculators to class.
- The Library Learning Commons (LLC) and gym classes at any location will be considered a classroom space.
- ***Personal electronic devices will be confiscated by staff members if they are found***

present in the classrooms and hallways except for the permitted times.

- ***First offence - the student device will be confiscated for the day.***
- ***Subsequent offences - the student device will be confiscated for the day and the teacher will contact the parent/guardian***
- Further repeat offences may be treated as willful disobedience by school administration.
 - If parents/guardians need to reach their child/children they can contact the main office at 780-986-2184.
- If your child is required to have their cellphone for specific medical reasons, please contact the office to fill in the "Student Device Medical Exception Form"