
Office of General Counsel

Policy 8080 Responsible Use of Technology, Digital Tools, and Social Media

To: All Staff

From: J. Stephen Cowles
General Counsel

On January 30, 2025, the Board adopted modifications to Policy 8080 Responsible Use of Technology, Digital Tools, and Social Media. The policy was modified to include language intended to reduce the use of personal devices by students during the student day. Modifications include language that states that students must keep personal technology devices away and silenced during the student day; smart watches may be worn during the student day but may not distract instruction or be used for reasons other than checking the time; a personal technology device may be permitted during a school-sponsored field trip in limited situations such as capturing a picture or video or when contacting a parent is necessary; use of a personal device in rare instances may be authorized such as an emergency for communication purposes, and when allowed as part of a student's Individualized Education Program (IEP), Section 504 Plan, or Health Plan; and personal laptops may be used for instructional activities in high school.

The changes went into effect on March 3, 2025. The policy and implementation procedures in their entirety can be accessed on [BoardDocs](#) and the [HCPSS website](#).

Thank you for your attention to this update.

JSC/kb
Attachment