

Nord Country School

BP5150 – Use of Smartphones on Campus



1.0 Purpose

The Nord Country School Board acknowledges that the unlimited use of smartphones on campus may lead to both reduced educational achievement and increased depression and suicide ideation through social media usage.

The Nord Country School Board further acknowledges that banning smartphones from campus altogether is not legal or preferable. The purpose of this policy is to define when and where it is acceptable for students to use smartphones on campus.

2.0 Definitions

- 2.1 For the purposes of this policy, smartphone is defined as any device capable of accessing the internet and/or communicating with others via electronic means. This may include cell phones, tablets, iPads, iPods, smart watches, and other similar devices not listed here.

3.0 Permissive Use of Smartphones

During the school day, while attending school-sponsored activities, or when under the supervision or control of school employees, all students will have their smartphones turned off and secured inside their backpacks.

Notwithstanding the above, students shall not be prohibited from using or possessing a smartphone on campus, while attending school-sponsored activities, or under the supervision or control of school employees under any of the following circumstances:

- 3.1 In the case of an emergency, or in response to a perceived threat of danger;
- 3.2 When a teacher or administrator of the school grants permission to the student to possess or use the smartphone, subject to any reasonable limitations they may impose;
- 3.3 When a licensed physician and surgeon determines that the possession or use of a smartphone is necessary for the health or well-being of the student; or
- 3.4 When the possession or use of a smartphone is required in a student's individualized education program.

4.0 Adoption and Review

- 4.1 Originally Adopted: 3/25/2020
- 4.2 Most Recent Review: 4/26/2023