



POLICY 524.5 – STUDENT CELL PHONES & PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES

I. PURPOSE

The Parnassus Preparatory School (“the School”) Board of Directors acknowledges that the use of cell phones and other personal electronic devices disrupts the classroom environment and hinders students’ ability to develop meaningful relationships and communication skills with those around them.

Furthermore, research indicates that excessive use of cell phones and other communication devices is associated with heightened anxiety and stress among children and adolescents.

In light of these concerns, the Board supports fostering a school environment that encourages personal connection, thoughtful discourse, and freedom from the distractions posed by cell phones and other personal electronic devices.

II. GENERAL PROHIBITION OF THE USE OF CELL PHONES AND PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES WHILE AT SCHOOL

Students are prohibited from possessing or using cell phones, personal electronic, communication, or entertainment devices during the school day.

Students are encouraged not to bring cell phones or other electronic devices, including smartwatches, to school or to School events.

If students choose to bring a cell phone/device to school, the device must remain safely stored in the student’s locker during the academic school day, including lunch and, if applicable, any recess or study hall periods.

Students assume the risk of damage, theft, or loss when choosing to bring a cell phone or other personal electronic device to school.

III. ESTABLISHING RULES, PROCEDURES, AND CONSEQUENCES FOR THE USE OF CELL PHONES AND PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Each school year, the Executive Director and School administration will establish rules, procedures, and consequences related to students’ possession and use of cell phones and other personal electronic devices while at school and at School events.

These rules, procedures, and consequences should seek to minimize the negative impacts of cell phones on student behavior, mental health, and academic attainment.

These rules, procedures, and consequences will be published in the School’s *Parent/Guardian and Student Handbook* at the start of each school year.

IV. EXCEPTIONS

In certain very rare instances, students may require the use of a cell phone or personal electronic device to monitor a medical condition or device, such as an insulin pump.

In the event that a medical condition may require a student to have access to a cell phone or personal electronic device, the student's healthcare provider should provide written recommendations for cell phone use or other approved technology to manage medical conditions during school hours.