

MORGAN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

STUDENT USE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES	Descriptor Code: JT	Issued Date: 05/04/2009
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Personal Communication Devices

A “personal communication device” is a device that emits an audible signal, vibrates, displays a message, or otherwise summons or delivers a communication to the possessor.¹

Students shall not use/have in sight personal communication devices during regular school hours. The device must be in the off mode (not in the act of being turned off) and must be placed in a backpack, pocketbook or a similar personal carrying device. Use of cell phones during the day will be limited to approved calls made in the office in the presence of a school administrator or their designee. This includes bus routes and any other program that is an extension of the school day. Appropriate use of phones is allowed after school hours. Special permission may be granted for use of day trips at the discretion of the sponsor.

This includes:

A device used outside these parameters will result in confiscation of the device. The device will be returned only to the parent/guardian of the student. MCS does not assume any responsibility should these items be lost, damaged or stolen. The following action will be taken:

First offense - The device can be picked up after five (5) school days by the parent. The parent will sign a form explaining the Board Policy for any reoccurring violations.

Second offense - The device will be returned after five (5) school days. The student will receive a two (2) day suspension.

Third offense – The device will be returned after five (5) school days. The student will receive a three (3) day suspension.

Fourth offense – and any subsequent offence-The device can be picked up after five (5) school days. The student will receive a ten (10) day alternative placement.

Serious inappropriate/illegal use will result in additional actions at the discretion of the administration.

School administrators may grant written exceptions to this policy for communication devices in cases of medical or other appropriate circumstances. Such permission will be granted only for the current school year. Circumstances that will be considered include, but are not limited to:

1. Medical Emergency
2. The device is permanently attached to an automobile as equipment/accessory
3. The device is deemed necessary for the student’s safety
4. The student is an active member of a volunteer fire fighting organization or a volunteer emergency medical service or organization.

Laser Pens/Pointers

Students shall not possess laser pens or pointers, while on school property or while attending a school-sponsored activity on or off school property.

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3 The pointing of a laser pen in someone's eyes or face could cause serious injury and must be
4 considered a serious violation of this policy and student discipline policy.
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6 Students who violate this policy, in regards to laser pens or pointers, will be subject to discipline
7 procedures which may consist of suspension and/or expulsion depending on the seriousness of the
8 incident. Laser pens and pointers will be confiscated by the principal and may be returned only to
9 the parent/guardian of the student. Principals may utilize law enforcement to enforce this policy in
10 cases or situations deemed necessary by the school principal.
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12 Students may use laser pens or pointers for class presentations, only with prior approval of the
13 principal.
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15 **Electronic Devices**

16 All personal electronic devices (CD players, MP3 players, cameras, gaming systems, etc.) are not
17 allowed, nor does the school assume any responsibility should these items be lost, damaged or
18 stolen. School administrators may grant written exceptions to this policy for electronic devices.
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21 The presence of any unauthorized device can/will result in confiscation of the device. The device
22 will be returned only to the parent/guardian of the student. The following action will be taken:
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24 First offense - The device can be picked up at the end of the school day.

25 Second offense - The device will be returned at the end of the current grading period.

26 Third offense – The device will be returned at the end of the current semester.
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28 Serious inappropriate/illegal use will result in additional actions at the discretion of the
29 administration.
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34 ¹TCA 49-6-4214
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