

KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION
AGENDA STATEMENT

No. 7g

MEETING OF August 14, 2019

REVIEWED BY:

ITEM TITLE:

PUBLIC HEARING - POLICY

Approval of revisions to Board Policy 5138 - Student Personal Electronic Device and Cell Phone Use in first reading

Superintendent
 Personnel
 Finance
 Policy Committee
 Building administrators

SUBMITTED BY: Beth Lougee, Superintendent

CONTACT PERSON/TELEPHONE:

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL:

Superintendent Lougee 247-2109
Phone

Superintendent

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

The School Board is being asked to approve revisions to Board Policy 5138 - Student Personal Electronic Device and Cell Phone Use.

ISSUE:

Building administrators have reviewed this policy and proposed these revisions. It is important to start the 2019-2020 school year with the revised policy in place, so it is being brought to the Board now for its first reading.

Note: The new additions are in red type, while the deleted sections are in black strike-through.

BACKGROUND:

Board Policy 9310 dictates that "the district shall develop or revise policies and regulations in order to reflect new legislation and changing community views." Additionally, BP 9311 calls for the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee to "maintain procedures for the continuous orderly review of existing policies at a time allocated for this purpose on the agenda of regular Board meetings... in addition to presenting drafts or suggestions for new policy and policy revisions when changes in law occur or when a specific need arises".

RECOMMENDATION:

Administration recommends the approval of the proposed revisions to BP 5138 - Student Personal Electronic Device and Cell Phone Use.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Proposed revisions to BP 5138.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

"I move that the Board of Education approve the proposed revisions to Board Policy 5138 - Student Personal Electronic Device and Cell Phone Use in first reading."

BP 5138

STUDENT PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICE AND CELL PHONE USE

The School District has determined that cell phones are a convenience for students and parents, yet their use may create a disruption in the learning environment. Student possession **and use** of cell phones **or other electronic devices** in the schools is a privilege only allowable subject to appropriate rules and regulations. ~~Additionally, the District prohibits the use of other communication devices when used for two-way communication in the classroom.~~ The District reserves the right to define the educational value of any ~~new~~ electronic devices that may become available in the future, to regulate their use and to prohibit their use if they have no educational value or if such use creates learner distraction or disruptions.

Possession of a cell phone by a student is a privilege which may be forfeited by any student not abiding by the terms of this policy. Students shall be personally and solely responsible for the security and use of their cell phones.

The District shall not assume any responsibility for theft, loss or damage of a cell phone, or unauthorized calls made on a cell phone.

No expectation of confidentiality shall exist for any portable electronic device. Students may be requested to surrender such devices to school staff and may be required to unlock a device by school authorities.

1. Electronic devices are always prohibited in locker rooms, restrooms, and shower facilities.
2. Students are forbidden from videotaping, photographing, or otherwise documenting acts or behaviors that are:
 - a. illegal
 - b. in violation of the school code of conduct, or for the purpose of social media exposure, bullying, harassment, etc.

Use of Cell Phones on School Grounds

Student use ~~possession~~ of a cell phone depends on the grade level of the student. The following categories outline the grade levels and authorized use/~~possession~~ of cell phones **or other electronic devices** by students:

1. **Elementary Schools, Kindergarten-Sixth Grade:** Student ~~possessions~~/use of cell phones **and other electronic devices** is prohibited during the school day and in the school building. Communication with parents/guardians is facilitated through the school office.

2. **Middle School – Seventh Grade–Eighth Grade:** Students may use cell phones **and other electronic devices** before and after school, as long as they do not create a distraction or a disruption. ~~Students may also use cell phones during the lunch break. Use of cell phones during the school day is prohibited and phones shall be powered completely off during the academic day. Cell phone use is always prohibited in locker rooms, restrooms, and shower facilities.~~

3. **High School – Ninth Grade–Twelfth Grade:** Students may use cell phones **or other portable electronic devices before and after school, during passing periods, lunch and nutrition break.** ~~as long as they do not create a distraction or a disruption. The use of such devices is prohibited during class time unless allowed by instructors for educational purposes. Possession of any portable electronic device is a privilege, which may be forfeited by any student not abiding by terms of this policy. cell phones before and after school, as long as they do not create a distraction or a disruption. Students may also use cell phones during passing time between classes and during the lunch break as long as they do not create a distraction, disruption, or cause the student to be tardy for the next class period. Cell phones shall be kept out of sight and powered completely off during class time. Cell phone use is always prohibited in locker rooms, restrooms, and shower facilities.~~

Camera or Picture Cell Phones

At no time may any electronic communication device or camera be utilized by any student in a way which might reasonably create an impression of being threatened, humiliated, harassed, embarrassed, or intimidated. Additionally using any electronic device to cheat or to assist another student to cheat is strictly forbidden and will result in permanent confiscation of the device.

Sanctions

In cases of policy violation, the user of the device shall be subject to disciplinary action; i.e. warning, confiscation of device, suspension/expulsion, or other disciplinary action. If the device is confiscated and forwarded to the school administration, it may only be returned to a parent or legal guardian.

KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
Adoption Date: 9/27/06