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ELECTRONIC DEVICES **BOARD ADOPTED MARCH 18, 2019**

213 ELECTRONIC DEVICES

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3 **A. PURPOSE**

- 4 1. The Board recognizes that mobile phones and electronic devices are now an integral part of the
5 daily lives and culture of many of the Intermediate Unit's students. Nonetheless, the Board
6 believes that students should have an educational environment free from unnecessary disruptions
7 and distractions. The Board has determined that the presence of mobile phones and electronic
8 devices has the potential to distract students from their educational mission and to otherwise
9 disrupt the educational environment.

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11 **B. AUTHORITY**

- 12 1. Therefore, the Board adopts this policy to maintain an educational environment that is safe and
13 secure and free from distractions for its students.

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15 **C. DEFINITION**

- 16 1. Electronic devices shall be defined as all devices that are capable of electronically
17 communicating, sending, receiving, storing, recording, reproducing, and/or displaying
18 information and data, or provide a wireless, unfiltered connection to the Internet.
- 19 2. Examples of these electronic devices include, but shall not be limited to iPods, MP3 players,
20 music and media players, portable game units, global positional systems (GPS), Personal Digital
21 Assistants (PDAs), cellular telephones, smart phones, smart tablets, and laptop computers, as well
22 as any new technology developed with similar capabilities. This also includes the audio tracking
23 feature of devices activated or operated remotely by individuals other than the student.
- 24 3. In addition, for the purpose of this policy, electronic devices shall also include laser pointers and
25 attachments, and telephone paging devices/beepers. An Intermediate Unit administrator may
26 grant an exception to this specific prohibition when a student is a member of a volunteer
27 ambulance, fire, or rescue squad or where the student has a medical condition that necessitates the
28 use of a paging device/beeper.

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30 **D. GUIDELINES**

- 31 1. The Board prohibits the personal use of electronic devices by students in Intermediate Unit
32 buildings or classrooms; on Intermediate Unit property; on Intermediate Unit buses and vehicles;
33 and during the time students are under the supervision of the Intermediate Unit. All electronic
34 devices shall be stored in the 'off' position.

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- 36 2. The Board prohibits possession of laser pointers and attachments, and telephone paging
37 devices/beepers by students in Intermediate Unit buildings, on Intermediate Unit property, on
38 Intermediate Unit buses and vehicles, and at activities sponsored by the Intermediate Unit.
- 39 3. Electronic Images, Photographs and Recordings
- 40 a. The Board prohibits the taking, storing, disseminating, transferring, viewing, or sharing of
41 obscene, pornographic, lewd, or otherwise illegal images or photographs, whether by
42 electronic data transfer or other means, including but not limited to texting and e-mailing.
43 The Board also prohibits the taking of pictures, video or recordings of others in non-public
44 places where persons have an expectation they will not be recorded, without prior written
45 consent from the individual.
- 46 b. Because such violations may constitute a crime under state and/or federal law, the
47 Intermediate Unit may report such conduct to state and/or federal law enforcement agencies.
- 48 c. Nothing in this policy shall affect the ability of the building administrator or his/her designee
49 to grant approval for the use of an electronic device by a student because of a student's urgent
50 health or safety needs, or in the event of an emergency.
- 51 d. Nothing in this policy shall affect the provision or use of an electronic device as stated in an
52 Individualized Education Program or Section 504 Service Agreement, or on transportation
53 vehicles, buses, and vans if authorized by the bus driver and teacher or program
54 administrator.
- 55 4. Loss or Damage to Electronic Devices
- 56 a. Students are solely responsible for the safe storage of any personal electronic devices that
57 they choose to bring to school. The Intermediate Unit shall not be liable or responsible for
58 the loss or damage to any electronic devices that a student brings to school, extracurricular
59 activities, to school sponsored events or trips, or from the confiscation of an electronic device
60 as the result of a policy violation.
- 61 5. Penalty for Violation
- 62 a. Violations of this policy by a student shall result in disciplinary action and may result in
63 confiscation of the electronic device.
- 64 6. Development of Administrative Guidelines
- 65 a. The Executive Director or designee may develop administrative guidelines to implement this
66 policy. The Executive Director or designee shall ensure that students are made aware of this
67 policy and any administrative guidelines by means of each school's student handbook, the
68 Intermediate Unit website, or other reasonable means of written communication.