

Electronic Communication Device Bill

Electronic Device Usage

1. Students are permitted to use electronic communication devices only during the following times and circumstances:

- At after-school or sports activities, only with the permission of the coach, instructor or program director.
- At evening or weekend activities inside and outside the school building.
- Outside and inside school buildings before, after, or during school hours when the student does not have a scheduled class.
- In study halls, for silent use only.

2. Students may not use electronic communication devices during passing time or in class, except as specifically directed by the teacher.

Enforcement and Penalties

1. If at any time during school hours a student is using any device in a disruptive manner, a faculty member may demand that the student discontinue use of the device or turn it off.

2. Consequences for students found to be in violation of the device usage policy are as follows:

- First offense: The student's device will be confiscated until the end of the class period.
- Second offense: The student's device will be confiscated and returned to the student at the end of the school day. The teacher taking the device may hold it him/herself, or may turn the device over to the student's dean, and shall inform the student where he/she may retrieve it.
- Third and subsequent offences: The student's device will be confiscated for the rest of the school day, and his/her dean will be notified of the student's inappropriate device use. The student may face additional disciplinary action, consistent with the LHS Code of Discipline.

3. A teacher may impose different consequences for device misuse in the classroom at his/her own discretion. The teacher must explain his/her policy to , and must enforce said policy with consistency.

This policy will be reviewed at least every other school year, starting in the first full school year of its implementation. The Oversight Committee will be responsible for this periodic review.

Rationale

The senate believes that the current LHS Electronic Communication Device policy is ineffective and outdated. Mass-market personal devices have gained capabilities far beyond those common when the current procedure was designed and implemented, making it obsolete. Moreover, the policy is nigh unenforceable and does not reflect the realities of the contemporary school atmosphere. It is unreasonable to demand that all teachers will serve as enforcers outside their classrooms at all times during the school day. Requiring parents to pick up a student's device after a second violation of the rules is impractical and illogical.

Moreover, both students and faculty agree that there are valuable uses for electronic communication devices during the school day, even within the classroom. Teachers should have the aegis to allow students to

employ devices for educational purposes, a right not granted to them by the current policy. Permitting student device usage within the classroom would facilitate an enriching incorporation of modern technology into the modern curriculum. At the same time, teachers should have optional access to a standard set of consequences for device misuse. Students must be well informed of the penalties for using their devices inappropriately, eliminating any grounds for contradiction or argument. Nevertheless, teachers should have the ability to devise their own set of punitive measures if they wish; teachers know best which measures will improve the academic environment within their own classes.

Drafted by the LHS Senate Policy Committee - Chair: Senator Brown bb501063@gmail.com