

Lewis Center for Educational Research

**BP 5200: STUDENTS
CELL PHONES, SMARTPHONES, PAGERS & OTHER ELECTRONIC
SIGNALING DEVICES**

Adopted: June 15, 2020

Revised:

The Lewis Center for Educational Research (“LCER”) recognizes potential for cell phones, smartphones, pagers, and electronic signaling devices (referred to collectively as “private devices”) to disrupt the learning environment, and adopts this policy to permit students to possess but not use private devices during class time. Students who possess these private devices must keep them silenced and out of view during class time. Teachers, administrators, and staff will confiscate any private devices used by a student in violation of this policy.

All students are required to adhere to the following guidelines regarding private devices:

Private devices may be used:

- Before and after school
- Between class periods or during lunch
- In the case of an emergency, or in response to a perceived threat of danger.
- When an LCER staff member grants permission to a student to possess or use a private device, subject to any reasonable limitation imposed by that staff member.
- When a licensed physician or surgeon determines that the possession or use of a private device is necessary for the health or well-being of the student.
- When the possession or use of a private device is required in a student’s individualized education program (“IEP”).

Private devices shall be put away and not used:

- During class time, assemblies, and any other school/LCER activity, which takes place during the regularly scheduled school day.

Possession of private devices is a privilege, which may be forfeited by any student who fails to abide by the terms of this policy. All LCER employees shall remove any private device from the possession of a student found to be violating this policy. If a private device is heard ringing, beeping, or buzzing from inside a jacket, purse, backpack, or other similar article, whether within the immediate presence of the student or not, a LCER staff member may remove the private device and confiscate the private device. Parents/guardians will be contacted to pick up any confiscated private devices.

All other applicable student discipline policies shall continue to apply in response to a student failing to abide by the terms of this policy. Notwithstanding any other school policies on searches in general, absent reasonable suspicion of wrongdoing with the device beyond merely possessing it or having it turned on or out in the open, LCER staff may not search any personal devices without the express authorized consent of the student and the student’s parent or legal guardian.

Students who possess a private device shall assume responsibility for its care in accordance with this policy. At no time shall the LCER be responsible for preventing theft, loss or damage to private devices brought onto campus.