



THE JESSE OWENS SCHOOL ~ P.S. 26
1014 LAFAYETTE AVENUE BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11221
(718) 919-5707 / Fax (718) 574-2803

Diana Funtleyder – Principal

Maxx Luddy, Assistant Principal

August 25, 2025

SUBJECT: SCHOOLWIDE ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY-Cell Phones, Smart Watches, iPads, etc..

Purpose :

To create an environment conducive to learning by minimizing distractions caused by cell phones and other personal internet-enabled electronic devices, ensure the safety and focus of all students during school the school day, and follow [Education Law §2803](#), effective August 1, 2025, all New York State schools are required to adopt a policy that prohibits the use of personal internet-enabled devices during the school day on school grounds. An "internet-enabled electronic device" is defined as an electronic device capable of connecting to the internet and enabling the user to access content on the internet. Examples of such devices include cell phones, smartphones, smartwatches, laptops, tablets, iPads, and portable music and entertainment systems.

Policy statement:

Students will not be permitted to use or access their personal internet-enabled electronic devices upon arrival at school until the end of the school day. The school day is defined as the period from the moment students enter the school building until the last class of the day ends, including during lunch. The school day starts at 8:00am and ends at 2:20pm. Students will be able to use school/NYCPS-issued devices during the school day.

1. COLLECTION/STORAGE

- Upon arrival, students must power off their devices.
 - A designated collection point, supervised by staff members, will be set up in main office by the entrance to PS 26, between times 8:00am and 2:20pm
 - At the end of the school day, device pick up by student, will be monitored by school staff in the main office between times 2:15pm and 2:20pm.
- **Electronic Device Lockers**
 - Students will place their devices in their individual locker slot while being monitored by school staff.
 - All electronic devices will be stored in a locked closet in the main office for the day.
- At the end of the school day, students will retrieve their own electronic device at the designated collection point.
- Students with approved early dismissal will retrieve their devices from the main office

1. EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

- In case of emergency or exigent circumstances, parents or guardians can call Shalonda Buie, Pupil Personnel Secretary or Jessica Jones, Parent Coordinator to reach their child.

MISSION: *Dedicated to immersing every student, every day, in a dynamic and inclusive culture of High-Quality Instruction, enriched with meaningful experiences that celebrate cognitive diversity and all stages of development, empowering each child to thrive and reach their fullest potential.*



1. **EXCEPTIONS**

- Students are allowed to use their device if they have an individualized education program (IEP) or 504 Plan that includes use of an internet-enabled device and do not have a DOE-issued device for such purpose.
- Parents/guardians must contact name specific contact/role at 718-919-5707 if a student requires an exception for reasons such as: medical monitoring/treatment s (for example to monitor blood sugar or other similar circumstances), if student is a caregiver, for approved language purposes (such as translation or interpretation services if no other means are available), or where otherwise required by law.
- The principal/designee may authorize use for an educational purpose.
- Exceptions will be processed and approved within name specific timeframe.

1. **DISCIPLINE**

- Students who use electronic devices in violation of the NYCPS [Discipline Code](#), the school's policy, Chancellor's Regulation A-413, and/or the NYCPS [Internet Acceptable Use and Safety Policy](#) ("IAUSP") will be subject to progressive discipline. This means that the disciplinary responses will escalate based on the nature and frequency of the violation. As provided in the State law, a student may not be suspended solely on the grounds that the student accessed a personal internet-enabled device in violation of school policy. Repeated incidents of insubordination (i.e. refusal to surrender or store device) may result in a suspension if approved by the Office of Safety and Youth Development.

1. **OTHER: If lost or stolen**

- In the unlikely event that an electronic device is stolen or damaged at school, parents can submit a claim to the Comptroller's Office. More information on submitting a claim is available on the [Comptroller's webpage](#).

We appreciate your cooperation in helping us maintain a focused and productive learning environment. If you have any questions or need further clarification regarding these policies, please do not hesitate to contact name specific contact(s)/role(s) at 718-919-5707.

In partnership,

Diana Collazo-Funtleyder
Principal

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