

PORTABLE COMMUNICATION DEVICES

1. PURPOSE

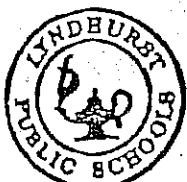
To define approved and non-approved portable communication devices; to establish procedures for the use of approved portable communication devices; to establish penalties for the improper use of approved portable communication devices and to establish penalties for the possession and/or use of non-approved portable communication devices.

2. DEFINITIONS

- A. An Approved Portable Communication Device is any device that can receive or send voice and or data messages. Approved devices include but are not limited to portable pagers, hand-held radios, cellular phones or Personal Digital Assistants (PDA's Palm Pilots).
- B. A Non-approved Portable Communication Device is any device that can receive or send voice and or data messages and has the additional ability to take, send and receive pictures. Non-approved devices include but are not limited to cellular phones, Personal Digital Assistants (PDA's Palm Pilots) or other electronic devices that are or may become available.

3. PROCEDURES

1. Effective September 1, 2002, high school students may possess portable communication devices on Lyndhurst Public School property and at Lyndhurst Public School sponsored activities. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that the device is turned off and out of sight except when authorized for use. The high school student may not turn on/use the device until the end of the official instructional day on the high school campus. High school students may not use portable communication devices on Lyndhurst Public School or commercially chartered buses used for school-sponsored activities during the official instructional day. Elementary school students are not permitted to possess or use portable communication devices on Lyndhurst Public School elementary school campuses or at Lyndhurst Public School sponsored elementary school activities, except by written request by a parent or guardian and upon the approval of the principal. Requests denied by the principal may be appealed to the Superintendent of Schools whose decision shall be final. High school students on an elementary school campus for a legitimate purpose must have all approved portable communication devices turned off and out of sight during the instructional day. High school students on an elementary school campus outside of the instructional day may use an approved portable communication device.



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2. Effective March 29, 2004, the definition of Portable Communication Devices was expanded to describe Approved and Non-approved devices.
3. Effective March 29, 2004, high school and elementary school students are prohibited to use, carry, wear, store or be in possession of Non-approved Portable Communication Devices in all schools and on all Lyndhurst Board of Education Property. This applies to instructional times, Saturday School and extra curricular activities where students are participants and not spectators.
4. Any student having reached the age of majority or parent/guardian of a student requesting authorization or use of an approved portable communication device other than at authorized times will make such request to the principal who will decide whether to grant or deny the request.
5. Any staff member or student having knowledge or reasonable suspicion of unauthorized possession and/or use of an Approved Portable Communication Device or the unauthorized possession and/or use of a Non-approved Portable Communication Device by a student on Lyndhurst Public School property should promptly report this information to the principal their designee.
6. Any student who violates this procedure will be subjected to disciplinary sanctions that may include confiscation of the Portable Communication Device, privilege denial, parental/guardian notification, detention and or detentions and out-of-school suspension.
7. Procedures in this regulation will be incorporated into the local school discipline plan process.

4. RESPONSIBILITY/LIABILITY

Lyndhurst Public Schools will assume no responsibility or liability for loss or damage to a Portable Communication Device or for the unauthorized use of any such device.

DATE: August 20, 2002
REVISED: March 29, 2004