

5.40 STUDENT CELL PHONE POLICY Revised and adopted 4/12/07

The Tooele County School District has determined that cell phones have limited or no educational value and their use may create a distraction to the learning environment. Student possession of cell phones in the Tooele County School District is only allowable subject to the following rules and regulations. Strict adherence to these rules and regulations is required. Additionally, the District restricts the use of other communication devices (i.e. two-way radios, ipods, pagers, PDA's and laptops with two-way messaging capabilities) by students. The Tooele County School District reserves the right to define the educational value of any new electronic wireless devices that may become available in the future and to prohibit their use if they have no educational value or if such use creates learner distraction or disruption.

Possession of a cell phone may be forfeited by not abiding by the terms of this policy. Students shall be personally and solely responsible for the security of their cell phones. Tooele County School District shall not assume any responsibility for theft, loss, or damage of a cell phone, or unauthorized use of a cell phone.

Use of Cell Phones on School Grounds

Student use/possession of a cell phone depends on the grade level of the student. The following categories outline the grade levels and authorized use/possession of cell phones by students:

1. **Elementary Schools, Kindergarten – Sixth Grade:** Student use of cell phones is prohibited during school hours. Students who bring electronic devices to school must be prepared to store them out of sight. (Elementary students may use electronic devices for safety/communication prior to arrival at school and upon exiting school.)

1. **Junior High Schools, Seventh Grade – Eighth Grade:** Students may use cell phones before and after school, as long as they do not create a distraction or a disruption. Use of cell phones during school hours is prohibited and they will be powered off and concealed and secured in lockers during the academic day. If a student needs to make a call during the academic day, the student may make the call in the office. Cell phones are strictly prohibited in classrooms, locker rooms, restrooms and shower facilities.

1. **High Schools, Ninth Grade – Twelfth Grade:** Students may use cell phones before and after school, as long as they do not create a distraction or a disruption. Students may also use cell phones during passing time between classes and during the lunch break, as long as they do not create a distraction or disruption or cause the student to be tardy for the next class period. Cell phone usage is strictly prohibited in classrooms, locker rooms, restrooms and shower facilities. Use of cell phones during class time is strictly prohibited and they will be powered off and concealed.

1. **Camera or Picture Cell Phones:** Because of the threat to privacy and the integrity of the educational program, the use of a camera or picture cell phone is subject to the following rule: the use of a camera function of a cell phone is strictly prohibited on

school premises or at school activities. Violation of this provision will cause the revocation of the cell phone use for the school year.

1. **Consequences** for inappropriate cell phone usage will be determined by each school and identified in the school's parent/student handbook.