

Leon County Schools Guidelines on Use of Wireless Communication Devices

Effective School Year 2025–2026

In Accordance with Florida House Bill 1105

Leon County Schools is committed to fostering safe, engaging, and distraction-free learning environments. With the passage of House Bill 1105, the Florida Legislature has reinforced the importance of minimizing disruptions during instructional time caused by Wireless Communication Devices (WCD). In response, the district has updated its policy to reflect both the law and our shared vision for academic focus, digital responsibility, and student success.

Elementary & Middle School Guidelines

Students enrolled in elementary and middle schools across Leon County are prohibited from using WCD during the school day. This includes but is not limited to:

- Cell phones
- Smartwatches and wearable communication tools (e.g., Apple Watch, Google Watch)
- Earbuds/headphones
- Tablets or gaming WCD

WCD must remain powered off, stored securely, and out of sight from the time a student arrives on campus until the end of the school day including:

- Recess
- Lunch periods
- Transitions between classes
- Before-school and after-care programs occurring on campus

Students will continue to have access to district-issued or approved technology as needed for classroom instruction.

High School Guidelines

High school students are permitted to bring WCD to campus. However:

- Use of WCD during instructional time is not allowed, unless specifically authorized by the classroom teacher for educational purposes.
- Students may use WCD responsibly during non-instructional times, such as lunch or passing periods.
- Misuse of WCD—including unauthorized recording, social media use during class, or inappropriate communication—may result in disciplinary action.

Communication During the School Day

Parents and guardians who need to contact their child during school hours must do so by calling the school's front office. Students should not use their personal WCD to call, text, or

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message home during the school day, unless given explicit permission by school staff in a designated area.

Enforcement and Accountability

Violations of the guidelines may result in:

- Verbal warning
- Temporary confiscation of the device
- Parent/guardian notification
- Progressive disciplinary action for repeated violations

School principals and site-based administrators have the authority to implement additional campus-specific procedures, so long as they remain within the scope of state law and school board policy.

Florida House Bill 1105 Overview

Under HB 1105, which took effect July 1, 2025, all public-school districts in Florida must ensure:

- A ban on student use of WCD during instructional hours in elementary and middle schools.
- High school students may only use WCD with educator permission during instruction.
- School boards must adopt clear guidelines for discipline, safety, and access that reinforce a focus on learning.

Summary at a Glance

Grade Level	Communication Device Summary
Elementary & Middle	WCD allowed on campus BUT must be powered off and out of sight all day.
High School	WCD allowed on campus; may only be used in class with permission.
Emergencies	Contact should be made through the front office, not through student WCD.
Law in Effect	Policy aligns with Florida House Bill 1105, effective July 1, 2025.

Supporting Our Students and Staff

We believe that learning happens best when students are fully present—mentally, emotionally, and socially. By reinforcing responsible use of technology, we are creating stronger conditions for success in every classroom across Leon County.

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For questions or more information regarding these guidelines and medical exceptions, please contact your school's principal or visit:

www.leonschools.net

