

Policy

USE OF REMOTELY ACTIVATED OR ACTIVATING COMMUNICATIONS DEVICES, PAGERS, CELLULAR TELEPHONES AND OTHER DEVICES

The Plainfield Board of Education recognizes the need to provide access to technological resources. For the purpose of this policy, "Remotely activated, or Activated Communications Devices", herein referred to as personal communication devices, are defined to include portable two-way telecommunications devices, including but not limited to cellular telephones (with or without cameras), beepers, walkie talkies, other hand-held computing devices used as a communication device, any portable electronic device capable of storing and transmitting or receiving images, such as cameras, as well as any new technology developed for similar purposes. Other devices include but are not limited to electronic games and personal stereos, such as MP3 players. Exceptions will be made for students with specific needs that require such devices as per their IEP.

The Plainfield Board of Education recommends that students do not bring personal communication devices to school. The Plainfield Board of Education assumes no responsibility in any circumstances for the loss, destruction, or theft of any personal communication devices brought to school at any time or to any extra curricular or after school activity.

In accordance to Chapter 2C:33-19 of the Criminal Justice Code 1989, "The possession of any remotely activated paging device by a student is prohibited without the expressed written permission of the School Board, its delegated authority, or any school principal".

The Plainfield Board of Education extends the privilege to possess, display, and use a personal communication device before and after the instructional day provided such device is not displayed, activated or used inside school buildings during the instructional day. The instructional day includes, but is not limited to lunch breaks, class changes, study halls and other structured or non-structured instructional activity that occurs during the normal school day; as well as, extra curricular or after school activities. Any students and/or parent/guardian who desire permission to possess a personal communication device must complete a parent/student contract that outlines the use and restricted use of such device on school property.

Students who violate the above stated policy will be subject to disciplinary action:

A. 1st Offense

The Building Principal or designee will confiscate the device; parent/guardian can retrieve the device at the end of the school day.

B. 2nd Offense

The Building Principal or designee will confiscate the device, it can be retrieved by the parent/guardian the last day of school in June.

C. Any Repeat Offense

The Building Principal or designee shall immediately notify the chief school administrator and the appropriate criminal justice or juvenile justice agency of the violation as per N.J.A.C. 6A:16-5.8.

The Plainfield Board of Education assumes no responsibility in any circumstances whatsoever for the loss, destruction or theft of any cellular phones, remotely activating paging device or similar device that is brought to school at any time or to any extra curricular or after school activity.

REMOTELY ACTIVATED COMMUNICATION DEVICES (continued)

Adopted: June 20, 2006
Amended: May 19, 2009

Key Words

Personal Communication Devices, Cellular Telephones, Camera Phones, Beepers, Walkie Talkies, Hand-Held Computing Devices

Legal References: N.J.S.A. 2C:33-19, 20 Possession of remotely activated paging devices on school property, disorderly persons offense; exemptions
N.J.A.C. 6A:16-5.8 Remotely activating paging devices

6A:16-5.8 Remotely activating paging devices

- a. Each district board of education shall adopt and implement policies and procedures regarding the prohibition of remotely activating paging devices, according to the requirements of N.J.S.A. 2C:33-19.
- b. Without the express written permission of the school board, the chief school administrator, or the school principal, students are prohibited from bringing or possessing any remotely activating paging device on any property used for school purposes, at any time and regardless of whether school is in session or other persons are present.
- c. School authorities shall not grant permission for a student to bring or possess a remotely activating paging device on any property used for school purposes unless and until a student shall have established to the satisfaction of the school authorities a reasonable basis for the possession of the device.
- d. The principal or his or her designee shall immediately notify the chief school administrator and the appropriate criminal justice or juvenile justice agency of a violation of this section.
- e. Each district board of education shall annually make available its adopted policies and procedures for implementing this section to all school staff, students, and parents

Cross References:

*1111	District publications
*3514	Equipment
3543	Office services
*3570	District records and reports
4118.2/4218.2	Freedom of speech (staff)
*5114	Suspension and expulsion
*5124	Reporting to parents/guardians
*5131	Conduct/discipline
*5131.5	Vandalism/violence
*5142	Pupil safety
5145.2	Freedom of speech/expression (students)
*6142.10	Technology
*6144	Controversial issues
*6145.3	Publications
6161	Equipment, books and materials

*Indicates policy is included in the Critical Policy Reference Manual.