



Electronic Device Policy

The purpose of this policy is to meet the guidelines outlined by the SC General Appropriations Bill, H. 5100 of 2024, Proviso 1.103 prohibiting the use of personal electronic devices during the school day.

Proviso 1.103 (SDE: Anti-Bullying/School Safety) To receive state funds allocated for State Aid to Classrooms, a school district shall implement a policy adopted by the State Board of Education that prohibits access to personal electronic communication devices by students during the school day. For purposes of this provision, a personal electronic communication device is considered to be a device not authorized for classroom use by a student, utilized to access the internet, wi-fi, or cellular telephone signals.

This proviso requires each local school district to adopt a policy modeled after the policy adopted by the State Board of Education. In the case of a public charter school, the district referred to in this policy is the individual school. This policy represents Midlands Middle College's (MMC) response to Proviso 1.103.

Definitions:

- A. "Personal electronic device," hereinafter referred to as "device," means any device utilized to access the internet, wi-fi, cellular telephone signals, or to capture images or videos. This includes, but is not limited to, cell phones, smart watches, tablets, and gaming devices.
- B. "Personal electronic device accessories," hereinafter referred to as "device accessories," include any wired or wireless accessory or wearable technology that connects to a device and any other accessory commonly used in conjunction with a personal electronic device.
- C. "School day" is defined as the period of time a student is present on the school campus from their arrival until afternoon dismissal at the end of the instructional day. This is generally from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm and includes dual enrollment students entering the building for meetings with school staff. This policy may also apply to field trips.
- D. "Access" is defined as viewing, holding, wearing, or otherwise using a device for the purpose of communication, internet access, gaming, recording, or any other function commonly associated with devices. During the day, devices are to be powered off and stored as directed by MMC administration. Exceptions may be granted for medical necessity and must be approved in writing by the principal.

Policy Implementation:

Beginning on January 7, 2025, MMC will become an electronic device free school. Students are prohibited from accessing electronic devices and device accessories from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm.

This includes between classes and at lunch. Devices must be powered off and stored according to the requirements of this policy.

Students are encouraged to leave all devices and device accessories at home or in their cars.

Students who do not choose one of those options will be required to power off the device and store them according to the procedures set by MMC administration.

This policy is to be followed by every student enrolled in MMC beginning the first day of enrollment. Any family who feels they have grounds for a medical exemption to this policy will need to provide written documentation verifying the medical need and meet with the principal to discuss potential approval.

Policy Enforcement:

If a student violates the preceding rules, the student will be subject to the progressive consequences below.

1st offense: Confiscation of device. Phone call to parents. Return at the end of the day.

2nd offense: Confiscation of device. Parents must retrieve from the office.

3rd offense: OSS for refusal to obey

4th offense: Potential removal from MMC