

Freeport High School Personal Electronic Device Procedure

Policy [JICJ](#) Implementation for the 2026–2027 School Year

Freeport High School is committed to a focused learning environment that supports students' social and emotional well-being. In accordance with Maine law and RSU5 Policy [JICJ](#), students may not carry, access, or use personal cell phones, smartwatches, or other internet-connected devices from the starting bell through dismissal, except as noted below. Families are encouraged to have students leave devices at home; any device brought to school must be powered off before the starting bell and stored for the day as described below.

Approved Storage

- Period 1/2 lockers: most students store their device in a locker in their Period 1/2 classroom, locked by the teacher; retrieved during Success Block, 2:20–2:30.
- Main office lockers: for students with open campus privileges, late arrivals, or planned dismissals (including athletics); retrieved during Success Block, 2:20–2:30.
- Region 10 students: store devices in a locker upon arrival in the cafeteria for lunch; retrieved during Success Block, 2:20–2:30.

Devices may not be kept in backpacks, pockets, purses, lockers, or on a student's person during the day, and may not be accessed during lunch, passing time, study halls, advisory, or bathroom breaks.

Communication During the School Day

All classrooms and offices have landline phones. Students needing to contact home should ask a teacher, advisor, or office staff member; parents needing to reach a student should call the main office. Students with health concerns should report to the nurse. In an emergency, the school/district will communicate with families as promptly as possible per the district's Emergency Management Plan.

Exceptions

Per RSU5 Policy [JICJ](#), exceptions may be granted for: monitoring/managing a health condition per a provider's order and individual health plan; implementation of a student's IEP; a documented Section 504 accommodation; or an emergency authorized by the building administrator. Approved exceptions must be documented and communicated to appropriate staff. Headphones/earbuds must be off and put away unless a staff member permits use for an academic or accommodation purpose. Smartwatches and smartglasses must be powered off and stored with the phone unless an exception is approved.

Violations and Consequences

Offense	Consequence
1st	Device turned in to the main office; PowerSchool documentation; device will be checked-in daily to the main office for 1 week. Open Campus students lose “good standing” until next grade check. Dishonesty or a “burner phone” moves the student to 2nd-offense consequences.
2nd	Device turned into the main office; parent pickup and meeting with administration required; device will be checked-in daily to the main office for 2+ weeks or until next grade check. Open Campus privileges lost for the semester. Dishonesty or a “burner phone” moves the student to 3rd-offense consequences.
3rd	Device turned into the main office; parent pickup and another parent meeting required; device will be checked-in to the main office for the remainder of the year. Open Campus privileges lost for the year. Dishonesty or a “burner phone” results in suspension.

Three or more offenses, or refusal to comply, results in suspension.

Frequently Asked Questions

- What about educational use? Students use district-issued MacBooks for classroom apps and classroom calculators, so personal devices aren't needed for instruction.
- Does bell-to-bell mean more time enforcing rules? No, a clear, universal rule simplifies the process: if a teacher sees a device, they report it and the procedure applies.
- Does this result in lost instructional time? No, devices are retrieved during Success Block (2:20–2:30), before buses depart at 2:35.
- What about emergencies? Devices stay in the classroom during an emergency evacuation. If the building reopens that day, students will be given time to retrieve belongings; otherwise, belongings are retrieved the next time students are allowed back inside.

** The district is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged personal electronic devices brought onto school property.**