



The Board of Education of School District No. 83

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August 28, 2024

Dear Parents, Guardians, or Caregivers,

As we begin another exciting school year, I have some important changes that may affect your child, following a new Ministerial Order from the province. This order restricts the use of personal digital devices (see definition of digital device below) across all districts, including School District No. 83.

To align with this order, our Board of Education has updated [Board Policy 310 Student Code of Conduct](#) (section 2. j), and we have introduced a new administrative procedure, [AP 310 Student Use of Personal Digital Devices](#). These changes will help ensure a smooth transition and clarify how the new rules will be applied in our schools.

We understand you may have questions about how this affects your child, and we hope the following details will help clarify things:

- **For Elementary and Middle School Students:** Personal digital devices are not allowed during school hours, including both instructional and non-instructional time. We encourage students to leave devices at home. If a device is brought to school, it must be securely stored, out of sight, and not carried on their person.
- **For Secondary School Students:** Teachers may permit personal digital devices to be used for educational purposes during class time. Devices can also be used during non-instructional periods, like lunch or breaks, depending on the school's guidelines.

In cases where a school includes both middle and secondary grades, the school's administrators will decide which procedure to follow.

Additional Notes:

- **Definition of digital device:** An electronic device that can receive, store, process, or send digital information. This includes, but is not limited to, cell phones, smart watches or other smart communication technology, and video or audio recording devices.
- Personal digital devices are intended to support learning and are used for instructional purposes appropriate to a student's age and development.
- Devices may be allowed to support students with diverse abilities as outlined in students' support plans and Individual Education Plans, or for medical needs. In such cases, devices will be provided by the school or district.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we implement these new procedures in our schools. Please review [AP 310 Student Use of Personal Digital Devices](#) for more detailed information.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us create a positive and focused learning environment for all students.

Sincerely,
Donna Kriger, Superintendent

OUR MISSION Empowering students to become confident, curious, and caring individuals who thrive in their learning, relationships, and community

OUR VISION Preparing students to become educated citizens who contribute positively to a dynamic, sustainable, and diverse world

OUR VALUES Belonging, Respect, Reconciliation, Empathy, Equity, Perseverance