

SCHOOL-BASED POLICY OF PS 56, THE LOUIS DESARIO SCHOOL FOR USE OF CELL PHONES, PHONE CAPABLE WATCHES OR PENDANTS, COMPUTING DEVICES, AND PORTABLE MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT SYSTEMS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

Students are permitted to bring CELL PHONES to school. The following electronic items may be brought to school **only** at the direction of a students' teacher/administrator to be used by that teacher's class in a lesson(s).1) laptops, tablets, iPads and other similar computing devices ("computing devices"), phone capable watches or pendants; 2) portable music and entertainment systems, such as iPods, MP3 players, PSP, and Nintendo DS; and 3) cameras.

A. **The use of cell phones, phone capable watches or pendants, computing devices, portable music and entertainment systems and cameras at school is subject to the conditions below.**

1. Cell phones or other electronic items may not be taken out of its stored location (book bag, etc.) and/or turned on during school hours, except where such use has been explicitly authorized by the school or is contained in an Individualized Education Program or Section 504 Accommodation Plan.
2. Cell phones, phone capable watches or pendants, computing devices, portable music and entertainment systems and cameras may not be turned on or used during school fire drills or other emergency preparedness exercises.
3. Cell phones, phone capable watches or pendants, computing devices, portable music and entertainment systems and cameras may not be taken to and or used in bathrooms.
4. Students who use cell phones, phone capable watches or pendants, computing devices, portable music and entertainment systems and/or cameras in violation of any provision of the DOE's Discipline Code, the school's policy, Chancellor's regulation A-413, and/or the DOE's Internet Acceptable Use and Safety Policy ("IAUSP") will be subject to discipline in accordance with the guidance interventions and disciplinary responses set forth in the Discipline Code.

B. **Cell phones, phone capable watches or pendants may be used as set forth below:**

During the school day:

- Cell phones and/or phone capable watches or pendants may not be turned on or used while on school property, including the schoolyard.
- Cell phones and/or phone capable watches or pendants may not be used in private areas, such as bathrooms or nurses office.
- Cell phones and/or phone capable watches or pendants may not be turned on or used during instructional time, except for instructional and educational purposes with the explicit approval of the teacher.

During after-school, school-sponsored programs or activities:

The school policy will be upheld during any and all after-school, school-sponsored programs including but not limited to COMPASS (formerly known as OST), After-school Test Prep, etc.

C. **Computing devices may be used as set forth below:**

During the school day:

- Computing devices may not be turned on or used while on school property, including the schoolyard.
- Computing devices may not be used in private areas, such as bathrooms or nurses office.
- Computing devices may not be turned on or used during instructional time, except for instructional and educational purposes with the explicit approval of the teacher.

During after-school, school-sponsored programs or activities:

The school policy will be upheld during any and all after-school, school-sponsored programs including

but not limited to COMPASS (formerly known as OST), After-school Test Prep, etc.

D. **Portable music and entertainment systems may be used as set forth below:**

During the school day:

- Portable music and entertainment systems may not be turned on or used while on school property, including the schoolyard.
- Portable music and entertainment systems may not be used in private areas, such as bathrooms or nurses office.
- Portable music and entertainment systems may not be turned on or used during instructional time, except for instructional and educational purposes with the explicit approval of the teacher.

During after-school, school-sponsored programs or activities:

The school policy will be upheld during any and all after-school, school-sponsored programs including but not limited to COMPASS (formerly known as OST), After-school Test Prep, etc.

E. **Cameras may be used as set forth below:**

During the school day:

- Cameras may not be turned on or used while on school property, including the schoolyard.
- Cameras may not be used in private areas, such as bathrooms or nurses office.
- Cameras may not be turned on or used during instructional time, except for instructional and educational purposes with the explicit approval of the teacher.

During after-school, school-sponsored programs or activities:

The school policy will be upheld during any and all after-school, school-sponsored programs including but not limited to COMPASS (formerly known as OST), After-school Test Prep, etc.

F. **Shared space in campus schools**

In campus schools, include the policy developed by the Building Council regarding the use of electronic items in shared spaces that are jointly occupied, such as the auditorium, hallways, and cafeterias.

G. **Confiscation and return of electronic items**

Describe the circumstances under which electronic items may be confiscated and returned. In determining whether to confiscate an electronic device, schools should consider the nature of the violation. Where appropriate, measures should be instituted in a progressive fashion. Such measures may include, but are not limited to:

- If a student takes a cell phone, phone capable watches or pendants or other electronic item from its stored location and does not turn it on, school personnel will ask that student to place the item back in its stored location.
- If a student is deemed to have used a cell phone, phone capable watches or pendants or other electronic item, except where such use has been explicitly authorized by the school or is contained in an Individualized Education Program or Section 504 Accommodation Plan, the cellphone or item will be confiscated and returned to the student at the end of the school day.
- If a student violates the school policy a second time, the confiscated item may be returned to the student's parent or guardian by school personnel or may be returned after a conference with the parent/guardian.
- If a student repeatedly violates the school policy or uses the item(s) in a way that violates the NYC Discipline Code the confiscated item may be returned to the student's parent/guardian by school personnel after a conference with the parent/guardian or after the student enters behavioral contract approved by teacher and parent/guardian or revocation of privilege to bring item to school.