

2024 – 2025 Pasco County Schools Rules for Wireless Communication Devices
Zephyrhills High School Policy Overview

WCD Requirements	Details
Policy Awareness and Overview	<p>The Board acknowledges the use of WCDs by students and parents for communication. Regulations are necessary to protect the school environment.</p> <p>WCDs can distract students socially, intellectually, and emotionally, leading to increased social and academic isolation.</p> <p>Social media can have positive uses, but can also cause negative feelings such as exclusion, judgment, anxiety, and targeting.</p> <p>WCDs can be used to initiate and perpetuate inappropriate or unlawful conduct, disrupting the school environment and threatening the community's health, safety, and welfare.</p>
Expectations for Grades 9-12	<p>WCDs must remain silent and out of view during the school day, with the only exception being lunch. They are not allowed during passing periods.</p> <p>Students are not allowed to wear headphones, earbuds, Bluetooth earpieces, or similar devices during the school day, except during lunch. These items must be out of view at all other times. Speakers are strictly prohibited.</p>
Classroom Suitability	<p>Students may be allowed to use their WCD by the classroom teacher for a specific instructional activity.</p> <p>Classroom teachers may provide a cell phone storage area.</p>
Accommodation Requests	<p>Requests will be evaluated using existing IEP, Section 504 plans, and medical procedures.</p>
Unauthorized Use of a WCD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-educational use during instructional time • Recording or transmitting audio, images, or video without consent • Recording fights or similar events and posting on social media • Distracting use creating an unsafe environment • Recording in locker rooms, showers, or restrooms • Transmitting test information or other academic dishonesty • Violations of the <i>Student Code of Conduct</i>
Confiscation Reasons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated violations of WCD policy • Recording or transmitting audio/pictures/video without consent
Post-Confiscation Procedure	<p>WCDs will be returned to parents/guardians after compliance with disciplinary actions, unless involving illegal activity, in which case they may be turned over to law enforcement.</p>
Additional Corrective Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students may be directed to delete unauthorized recordings in the presence of a parent/guardian. • Potentially illegal activity may result in WCD confiscation and referral to law enforcement or Child Protective Services.
Contact Information	<p>Contact school administration for details or questions about the WCD policy.</p>