

2025-2026 Zephyrhills High School
Wireless Communication Devices Policy Overview

| WCD Requirements | Details |
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| 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>WCDs must be placed in individual lock boxes during class unless otherwise directed by the teacher.</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> |
| Accommodation Requests | Requests will be evaluated using existing IEP, Section 504 plans, and medical procedures. |
| Unauthorized Use of a WCD | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At any point during class • 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"> • One or more violations of WCD policy • Refusal to comply with lockbox procedures • Recording or transmitting audio/pictures/video without consent |
| Post-Confiscation Procedure | 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. |
| Consequences for Violations | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st offense: Warning and call home • 2nd offense: Confiscation, referral, parent pick up of WCD • 3rd offense: Confiscation, referral, parent pick up of WCD, total ban of WCD on school grounds |
| Contact Information | Contact school administration for details or questions about the WCD policy. |