

Rationale:

Personal electronic devices (PEDs) (including, but not limited to, smartphones, smartwatches, and tablets) can distract from classroom learning. To support student focus and engagement with learning in a respectful environment, the Saskatchewan Ministry of Education and the North East School Division have provided guidelines for schools to limit the use of these devices during instructional time.

Tisdale Middle & Secondary School is committed to providing a learning environment that promotes student engagement without the distraction of personal electronic devices and adheres to the Ministry's and Division's policies.

Policy Statement:

TMSS students are expected to comply with the NESD's Use of Personal Electronic Devices in Schools (AP 4XX) and the NESD Student Responsible Technology Use Agreement (all guardians of students in grades 6 through 8 and all students in grades 9 through 12 sign the agreement at the beginning of each school year). Students in grades 6 through 8 will not have access to PEDs during the school day (excluding noon hours) and students in grades 9 through 12 may only access PEDs during class time if given explicit permission by the teacher (with Principal approval) if the PED is being used for a specific educational task or purpose.

Supporting Activity:

- TMSS does have an ample supply of school technology for students to use for educational purposes.
- PEDs are prohibited in test and examination settings unless explicitly permitted by the teacher.
- PEDs are not allowed in areas where privacy is expected, such as change rooms, washrooms, or private counseling rooms.
- PEDs are valuable electronics. Students bring these devices to school at their own risk. The school assumes no responsibility for the loss or repair of PEDs.
- Grade 6 through 8 students who bring their PEDs to school will hand them into their period #1 and #4 classroom teacher(s) to be safely stored. The PED can be accessed during the lunch hour. It will be returned by the period #5 teacher at school dismissal.
- Grade 6 through 8 students will not have access to the PEDs at school breaks, but they have the option during lunch hour (12:20 – 1:05).
- Any student, regardless of grade level, will lose PED privileges during detentions and in-school suspensions.
- Students with specific learning or medical needs supported by PEDs, may have access during the school day as defined in medical plans, Inclusion plans, success plans or records of adaptation.

Disciplinary Measures:

Non-compliance with these rules will result in disciplinary measures, including warnings, parental notification, and temporary confiscation of the device, escalating with repeated offenses according to TMSS's progressive discipline plan and the NESD's guidelines.