Board Policy

CATEGORY: Students POLICY NUMBER: 237

TITLE: Electronic Devices

ADOPTED: January 23, 2020

REVISED:

1. Purpose

Arts Academy Elementary Charter School provides students and staff access to technology tools and Internet resources as part of the charter schools core educational mission and goals. Technology permeates virtually all charter school academic activities, operations, communications and research. It is the intent of the charter school to hold high expectations for student behavior, and academic integrity while promoting responsible and ethical use of technology and network resources.

The purpose of this policy is to set forth expectations for responsible use of existing and emerging technologies and electronic devices that students may possess.

Use of technology resources is a privilege that may be revoked at any time.

Technology resources are not limited to charter school owned electronic devices but may also include personally owned devices.

2. Definition

Electronic Devices and Personally owned Devices An electronic device and personally owned device shall include all existing and emerging technology devices that can take photographs; record audio or video; input text; upload and download media; and transmit or receive messages or images; or provide a wireless filtered or unfiltered

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2. Definitions

connection to the Internet. Examples of electronic devices or personally owned devices shall include but not be limited to: MP3 players and iPods; and other tablet; laptop computers; cell phones and smart phones, gaming console, portable, digital camera and recording devices as well as any other communication devices with similar capabilities and other new technologies developed that are capable of connecting to the charter school's network or other independent mobile network.

3. Authority

The school holds high expectations for student behavior, academic integrity, and responsible use of technology devices. It is every computer user's duty to use the technology resources responsibly, professionally, ethically and lawfully. Access to these resources may be designated a privilege not a right.

SC 1317.1

Students who possess and/or use such devices during the school: in/on charter school buildings, charter school property, charter school vehicles or contracted vehicles; during transport to/from school; while attending school sponsored activities during the school day: and/or during any/all school sponsored activities generally, will demonstrate the greatest respect for the educational environment and the rights and privacy of all individuals within the school community.

The Charter school will not be liable for the loss, damage, theft, or misuse of any personal electronic device brought to school by a student in any of the circumstances or in any of the environments mentioned in the above paragraph. The Charter school will bear no responsibility or provide technical support, or trouble shooting or repair of electronic devices owned by anyone other than the charter school. Costs for the use of data and applications on the aforementioned electronic devices will be the responsibility of the student.

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The Board prohibits **possession of** laser pointers and attachments and telephone paging devices/beepers by students in charter school buildings; on charter school property; on district buses and vehicles; and at school-sponsored activities.

The charter school shall not be liable for the loss, damage or misuse of any electronic device brought to school by a student in any of the circumstances or in any of the environments mentioned in the above paragraph. The charter school will bear no responsibility or provide technical support, troubleshooting, or repair of electronic devices owned by anyone other than the charter school. Costs for the use of data and applications on the aforementioned electronic devices will be responsibility of the student.

Electronic Images And Photographs

The Board prohibits the taking, storing, disseminating, transferring, viewing, or sharing of obscene, pornographic, lewd, or otherwise illegal images or photographs, whether by electronic data transfer or other means, including but not limited to texting and emailing.

Because such violations may constitute a crime under state and/or federal law, the charter school may report such conduct to state and/or federal law enforcement agencies.

Such prohibited activity shall also apply to student conduct that occurs off school property if:

There is a nexus between the proximity or timing of the conduct in relation to the student's attendance at school or school-sponsored activities.

The student is a member of an interscholastic activity and has been notified that particular off campus conduct could result in exclusion from such activities.

The conduct has a direct nexus to attendance at school or a schoolsponsored activity, such as an agreement made on school property to complete a transaction outside of school that would violate the Code of Student Conduct.

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Recording

Audio recording will be consistent with state/federal laws. The unauthorized student recording of oral communications of any individual(s) possessing an expectation that such communications will not be recorded is prohibited and may be punishable under federal and state laws.

4. Delegation of Responsibilities

The Chief Executive Officer or designee shall annually notify students, parents/guardians and employees about the Board's electronic device policy.

The Chief Executive Officer or designee shall develop administrative regulations to implement this policy.

5. Guidelines

Violations of this policy by a student shall result in disciplinary action and may result in confiscation of the electronic devices

The Board permits the use of electronic devices by students as designated by the respective classroom instructor during instructional time. The Board further permits electronic devices for nonverbal, nondisruptive use during non-instructional times in locations designated in the building handbook and this policy. All other uses of electronic devices are prohibited.

<u>Unacceptable Devices</u>

The Board prohibits possession of unacceptable devices and attachments by students on school property, on buses and other vehicle provided by the charter school and at school-sponsored activities. Examples of an unacceptable device in this policy shall include but is not limited to gaming devices or consoles, laser pointers, modems or routers, and

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televisions.

Personally owned devices are permitted for use during the school day for educational purposes and/or in approved locations only.

Filtered Internet Use

Personally-owned devices used in school are not permitted to connect to the Internet through a 3G, 4G, or WiFi, nor other content service providers. Charter school or personally-owned devices may not be used via an application that allows remote access to personal PCs or network devices located off campus. Personally-owned devices must acces the Internet via the charter school's content filtered wireless network.

The charter school will provide filtered, authenticated, wireless access to the internet for student use. The Charter school forbids student access to the Internet through an unfiltered, unapproved wired, wireless, or cellular connection on electronic devices in any of the circumstances and in any of the environments listed in Section 3 (Authority) above. For example, connection to the Internet while present on school property, on school transportation, or at a schoolrelated activity, via anything other than the charter schoolprovided network, is a violation of this policy and policy 815 (Acceptable Use).

Privacy

Students will not photograph, videotape, or record other individuals at school, on charter school property, on school buses, or at schoolsponsored activities with their personally owned devices.

Exceptions

Exceptions to the prohibitions set forth in this policy may be made for health, safety or emergency reasons with prior approval of the building principal or designee, or when use is required for the provision of a free appropriate public education for a student identified under Section 504 or the

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Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and present in a student's Individualized Educational Program or Section 504 plan.

Insuring Academic Integrity

Students will not use cellular phones or other electronic devices in any way that may cause a teacher or staff member to question whether the student may be cheating on tests or academic work or violating copyright policy. Use of electronic devices is prohibited during testing, except where specifically authorized by the teacher or staff member and where the use of such device is required for the test.

<u>Discipline</u>

Violation of this policy is a violation of the disciplinary code. Conduct which violates this policy may also constitute violations of other sections of the discipline code, such as those regarding student privacy, copyright, cheating, plagiarism, Student Code of Conduct, Acceptable Use Policy, or harassment. Violations of this policy by a student will result in disciplinary action (including the range of penalties provided for in the discipline code, such as, loss of privileges, confiscation, and referral for expulsion) in accordance with charter school policy and Student Handbook. Use of electronic devices for an unlawful purpose will subject a student to any and all disciplinary measures provided by the Code of Conduct, charter school policy, or state/federal law. If a violation occurs involving more than one (1) charter school policy, consequences for each policy will apply.

Use of electronic devices pursuant to this policy is a privilege, not a right, unless otherwise required by legal exception stated above. Abuse of the limited use provision will result in discontinuation of electronic device privileges as determined by the Administration.

The charter school reserves the right to monitor, inspect, copy, and review a personallyowned device or file when administration has a reasonable suspicion that a violation has occurred.

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References:
School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 510, 1317.1
Board Policy 815