

BP 5131

Possession of Cellular Phones and Other Personal Electronic Signaling Devices

Note: Education Code [48901.5](#) allows Boards to regulate the use of electronic signaling devices that operate through the transmission or receipt of radio waves, except that student use of such devices may not be prohibited if essential for a student's health. When determining how to regulate student use of such devices, Boards should consider whether the device has capability, beyond its traditional usage, that may create privacy and data-protection issues. For example, cellular phones or personal digital assistants that have the capability to take photographs may be used in a manner that invades another student's privacy or assists students in cheating on tests.

No student shall be prohibited from possessing or using an electronic signaling device that is determined by a licensed physician or surgeon to be essential for the student's health and the use of which is limited to health-related purposes. (Education Code [48901.5](#))

Except for prior consent for health reasons use of an electronic signaling device, including but not limited to pagers, beepers and cellular/digital telephones is prohibited; students may be granted selective usage by written staff authority.

Enforcement of Standards

Employees are expected to provide appropriate supervision to enforce standards of conduct and, if they observe or become aware of a violation of these standards, to immediately intervene or call for assistance. If an employee believes a matter has not been resolved, he/she shall refer the matter to his/her supervisor or administrator for further investigation.

Students who violate district or school rules and regulations may be subject to discipline, including but not limited to suspension, expulsion or transfer to alternative programs in accordance with Board policy and administrative regulation. In addition, when the conduct involves intimidation, harassment, or other endangerment of a student or employee, the Superintendent or designee shall provide appropriate assistance as necessary for the victim and the offender or make appropriate referrals for such assistance.