

BURNS SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CHARTER SCHOOL, INC.
POLICY ON WIRELESS COMMUNICATION AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Adopted and Effective: August 19, 2025

1. Purpose. This is the Policy on Wireless Communication And Other Electronic Devices of Burns Science and Technology Charter School, Inc. (the "School"). In compliance with HB 1105 (2025) and §1006.07(2)(n), Florida Statutes, this policy establishes rules for student use of wireless communication devices to promote a safe and distraction-free learning environment.

2. Definitions.

- **Wireless Communication Device:** Any device capable of wireless voice, text, or internet communication, including but not limited to mobilephones, smart watches, tablets, and similar personal electronics.
- **Instructional Time:** Time during which a student is actively engaged in academic instruction or testing under the supervision of instructional personnel.
- **School Day:** The period from the time a student arrives on campus until the conclusion of dismissal and shall include field trips.
- **School-Sponsored Event And Activities:** Events and/or activities that take place on or off the school property but are school-sponsored events, including, but not limited to, extra-curricular activities, athletics, and school performances. This shall include school transportation.

3. General Prohibition. For Elementary and Middle School Students, the use of wireless communication devices is prohibited at all times during the school day, including recess, lunch and class transitions on campus, unless an exception under this policy applies. High School Students are prohibited from using wireless communication devices during instructional time, except when specifically authorized by instructional personnel solely for educational purposes. All wireless communications devices for all grade levels must be powered off or in airplane mode.

4. Use of Wireless Communications Devices Outside of the School Day. At all times while on school property or at a school-sponsored event or activity, students are required to demonstrate appropriate and proper use of their wireless communications devices, as determined by school personnel. Inappropriate or improper use shall include, but not be limited to, that which disrupts the environment or interferes with the safety of students, staff, or property. Photographs and video recordings may only occur with the consent of the person who is the subject of the photograph/video. Students who use wireless communication devices in the commission of a criminal act while on school property or in attendance at a school-sponsored event or activity may face school disciplinary action and/or criminal penalties.

5. Exceptions. Use of a wireless communication device may be permitted for the following reasons:

- As required by the student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or Section 504 Accommodation Plan.
- A doctor's note from a physician licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459 certifying in writing that the student requires the use of a wireless communications device based upon valid clinical reasoning or evidence.

- In locations designated by the school administrator and during non-instructional time, with express permission.
- Nothing in this policy shall be construed to prevent appropriate use of a wireless communication device during an emergency, safety drill, lockdown, or at the direction of school personnel acting in response to an immediate concern.

6. Enforcement. Students in violation of this policy will be subject to disciplinary consequences under the School's Code of Conduct. [Needs to be aligned to the Code of Conduct for each school]. Repeated violations of this policy will result in the confiscation of the wireless communications device and the device will be released only to the parent.

7. Parental Notification and Consent. This policy shall be included annually in the Parent/Student Handbook. Parents and guardians are encouraged to review the policy to ensure awareness of expectations regarding student use of wireless communication devices. Students carry wireless communications devices at their own risk. The school is not responsible if a student's wireless communication device is lost or stolen while in school, in attendance at a school-sponsored event or activity, or while on school transportation.

This policy may be updated pending release by the Florida State Board of Education of a model cell phone policy during the 2025-2026 school year.

Board Secretary Certificate

I hereby certify that the foregoing Policy on Wireless Communication and Other Electronic Devices was adopted by a majority vote of a quorum of the Governing Board of Directors at a duly noticed meeting held on 08-19-2025.



Board Secretary

Richard Puczkowski

Printed Name