

POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS
5516/page 1 of 5
Student Use of Internet-Enabled Electronic
Communication Devices
Jul 26
M

[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 190, 207, 234, and 238]

5516 STUDENT USE OF INTERNET-ENABLED ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES

The Board of Education prohibits student use of internet-enabled devices on school grounds during the school day in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:36-40b. The Board adopts this Policy and Regulation 5516 pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:36-40b. and the guidelines developed by the Commissioner of Education concerning student use of internet-enabled devices during regular school hours, on a school bus, or during school-sponsored events when the student is under the direct supervision of a teaching staff member or employee of the Board.

For the purpose of this Policy and Regulation 5516:

1. “Bell-to-bell” means the timeframe when the bell rings at the start of the school day until the dismissal bell rings at the end of the academic day. Bell-to-bell includes time in between class periods and lunch.
2. “Digital citizenship” means the development of thoughtful, empathetic citizens who can wrestle with important ethical questions at the intersection of technology and humanity. Model digital citizens focus on using technology to make communities better, engage respectfully online with others, and leverage technology to amplify voices and perspectives. They are careful to determine the validity of online sources of information and are always respectful of ideas different than their own.
3. “District-managed tools” means school-issued technology or platforms used for educational purposes (e.g., laptops, tablets, learning management systems, etc.).
4. “Internet-enabled device” means any device capable of connecting to the internet and accessing online content (e.g., smartphones,



POLICY GUIDE

tablets, smartwatches, smart glasses, etc.), including social media applications. An internet-enabled device does not include an internet-enabled device provided by the Board when used for educational purposes.

STUDENTS

5516/page 2 of 5

Student Use of Internet-Enabled Electronic Communication Devices

5. “Non-internet-enabled device” means a basic communication device that is not capable of connecting to the internet or enabling the user to access content on the internet (e.g., basic flip-style cell phones, two-way radio/walkie-talkie, etc.).
6. “School grounds” means and includes land, portions of land, structures, buildings, and vehicles, not to include school buses, owned, operated, or used for the provision of academic or extracurricular programs sponsored by the district or community provider and structures that support these buildings, such as school wastewater treatment facilities, generating facilities, and other central facilities including, but not limited to, kitchens and maintenance shops. “School grounds” also includes athletic stadiums; swimming pools; any associated structures or related equipment tied to such facilities including, but not limited to, grandstands; greenhouses; garages; facilities used for non-instructional or non-educational purposes; and any structure, building, or facility used solely for school administration. “School grounds” also includes other facilities as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:26-1.2; playgrounds; and other recreational places owned by local municipalities, private entities, or other individuals during those times when the school district has exclusive use of a portion of such land.

A student’s use of an internet-enabled device on a school bus or during school-sponsored events when the student is under the direct supervision of a teaching staff member or employee of the Board will be in accordance with the age-appropriate and grade-level differentiated requirements outlined in Regulation 5516.

District-issued technology and sponsored platforms are permitted to be used in classrooms for educational purposes. The district may use existing information



POLICY GUIDE

technology systems to proactively establish and monitor restrictions to the district's network. The district may utilize device management software to restrict or monitor student browsing on school-issued devices or from devices connecting to the district's Wi-Fi. The Board shall notify students and parents about the monitoring practices in Policy and Regulation 2361.

STUDENTS

5516/page 3 of 5

Student Use of ~~Internet-Enabled Electronic~~ Communication Devices

The Board shall assume no responsibility for the security of or damage to a student's internet-enabled device brought onto school grounds. If a student brings an internet-enabled device to school, the internet-enabled device must remain off and may be required to be stored in a storage system as indicated in Regulation 5516. An internet-enabled device required to be stored in a district storage system shall be password protected by the student so only the student owner of the internet-enabled device can use the internet-enabled device.

The district shall provide instruction aligned to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS) on Digital Citizenship and shall ensure classroom instructional time is entirely free of internet-enabled devices. Teachers shall not incorporate students' personal technology into lesson plans. All digital engagement shall occur through district-managed tools and devices.

The district shall communicate behavioral expectations for student use of internet-enabled devices to students and their parent(s) and reinforce these behavioral expectations throughout the school year. Communication of this Policy and Regulation 5516 may include, but not be limited to, school-wide notifications, signage, and reinforcement as part of classroom routines.

The district shall comply with all applicable State and Federal laws that protect the rights of students with disabilities or health related needs, including, but not limited to, the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

Students shall be permitted to use their internet-enabled device on school grounds during the school day, on the school bus, and at school-sponsored events in the following circumstances in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:36-40b.:



POLICY GUIDE

1. To fulfill accommodations provided in a student's individualized education program (IEP);
2. To support the implementation of a 504 Plan;
3. To implement a student health plan established to monitor or address a student's health condition (upon submission by a parent of documentation from a healthcare professional indicating that the use of an internet-enabled device is necessary for the health or well-being of the student);

STUDENTS

5516/page 4 of 5

Student Use of Internet-Enabled Electronic Communication Devices

4. For translation services;
5. For a student caregiver who is routinely responsible for the care or well-being of a family member;
6. When no reasonable alternative to the use of the internet-enabled device for a specific purpose exists (upon authorization by the Superintendent, Principal, or designee);
7. When required by law; and
8. In the event of an emergency.

The Principal or designee will inform students and parents of their right to request an internet-enabled device accommodation. The parent(s) shall submit a written request to the Principal or designee. The written request shall include, but not be limited to, supporting documentation from the student's physician, child study team, and/or any other documentation as required by the Principal or designee as to why the student requires an internet-enabled device accommodation. The Principal or designee shall inform the parent(s) of the approval or denial of the written request for an internet-enabled device accommodation within five school days of receiving the written request. The Principal or designee shall base such an



POLICY GUIDE

accommodation determination on documented medical, developmental, or other needs and review them on a regular basis.

The Principal or designee may involve school nurses, case managers, and IEP/504 coordinators in planning for and implementing internet-enabled device accommodations. Staff responsible for implementation shall have ready access to documentation of the accommodation and shall ensure their enforcement strategies minimize disruption. The district shall develop and disseminate clear procedures to ensure staff implement internet-enabled device accommodations confidentially. Staff training may be necessary to recognize and honor valid internet-enabled device accommodations without drawing unnecessary attention to the student. Staff shall treat students with an internet-enabled device accommodation with sensitivity and dignity. As appropriate, the district may develop one-page “internet-enabled device use summaries” for staff to ensure awareness while maintaining student confidentiality.

STUDENTS

5516/page 5 of 5

Student Use of Internet-Enabled Electronic Communication Devices

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-5.1, the district has developed and implemented comprehensive plans, procedures, and mechanisms that provide for safety and security in the district’s schools. School safety plans include thoughtful integration of internet-enabled device procedures during emergencies or perceived threats. The district has incorporated clear expectations into school safety plans, emergency drill protocols, and staff professional development.

In the event of an unplanned emergency closure that prevents students from retrieving stored internet-enabled devices, the district shall develop and communicate a clear, centralized protocol for retrieving stored internet-enabled devices safely and efficiently once the school building is accessible.

In the event of a family emergency or for non-emergency communication, families shall contact the school’s main office directly rather than reaching out to students during the school day. District staff will then follow local notification procedures to ensure the student receives the information in a timely and appropriate manner.



POLICY GUIDE

The district shall ensure students, parents, and school staff members are aware of this Policy and Regulation 5516 and understand how this Policy and Regulation 5516 apply to them. The Board shall include information about this Policy and Regulation 5516 in student handbooks.

District staff shall apply clear, age-appropriate consequences and use strategies to redirect students who attempt to use internet-enabled devices. Discipline and consequences shall be addressed in Regulation 5516.

No student enrolled as a student of an elementary or secondary school, knowingly and without the express written permission of the Board, its delegated authority, or any Principal, shall bring or possess any remotely activated paging device on any property used for school purposes, at any time and regardless of whether school is in session or others are present pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2C:33-19.

N.J.S.A. 2C:33-19.

N.J.S.A. 18A:36-40a.; 18A:36-40b.

Guidance for Schools on Student Use of Internet-Enabled Devices,
New Jersey Department of Education, January 2026

Adopted: 14 September 2021

Revised/Readopted: April 29, 2025

Revised/Readopted: _____, 2026



POLICY GUIDE

OPERATIONS

8660/page 1 of 2

Transportation by Private Vehicles – **To and From
School-Related Activities**

Jul 26

M

[See **POLICY ALERT No. 238**]

8660 TRANSPORTATION BY PRIVATE VEHICLES – TO AND FROM SCHOOL-RELATED ACTIVITIES

The Board of Education authorizes the transportation by private vehicle of students of ~~the this~~ district between the school and a **school-related activities** activity approved by ~~the this~~ Board in accordance with this **Ppolicy and N.J.A.C. 6A:27-7.6(b)**.

Any such transportation must be approved in advance and in writing by the Superintendent or designee_____. The writing must set forth the date, time, and reason for the transportation; the places from and to which students will be transported; the name and address of the driver; the names of the students to be transported; a brief description of the transportation vehicle; and the signature of the driver. The parent(s) ~~or legal guardian(s)~~ of a participating student will be given, on request, the name of the driver and the description of the vehicle.

No person shall be approved as driver for the transportation of students in a private vehicle who is not an employee of ~~the this~~ Board or the parent(s) ~~or legal guardian(s)~~ of a student enrolled in ~~the this~~ district and the holder of a currently valid license to operate a motor vehicle in the State of New Jersey.

{Optional}

No person shall be permitted to transport students who has been convicted of a moving vehicle violation within the period of three calendar years immediately preceding the request for transportation approval.†

The Board may withdraw the authorization of any private vehicle driver **at any time**.



POLICY GUIDE

Any private vehicle used for the transportation of students must be owned by the approved driver or the spouse of the approved driver,; have the capacity to hold not more than eight persons,; and must conform to registration, inspection, and

OPERATIONS

8660/page 2 of 2

Transportation by Private Vehicles – **To and From School-Related Activities**

insurance requirements of the State of New Jersey for privately owned vehicles. Seat belts shall be worn by the driver and the passengers while the vehicle is in motion. No vehicle may be used to transport more persons than its normal load capacity.

The responsibility of teaching staff members for the discipline and control of students will extend to their transportation of students in a private vehicle.

Drivers who are not teaching staff members are requested to report student misconduct to the Building Principal.

Expenses incurred by drivers of private vehicles **who are employees of the Board** in the course of transporting students **may will** be reimbursed by the Board **upon approval of the Superintendent** ~~at the approved mileage rate and upon presentation of evidence of costs for tolls and parking fees.~~

N.J.S.A. 18A:16-6.; 18A:25-2.; 18A:39-20.1.

N.J.A.C. 6A:27-7.6; 6A:27-7.7

Adopted: 14 September 2021

Revised/Readopted: _____, 2026



POLICY GUIDE

OPERATIONS

8662/page 1 of 3

Transportation by Private or District-Owned
Vehicles – To and From School

Jul 26

M

[See POLICY ALERT No. 238] This policy will not be adopted at this time; the district does not currently have an 8 passenger van and does not plan on purchasing this upcoming school year. If purchased, this policy will be adopted.

8662 TRANSPORTATION BY PRIVATE OR DISTRICT-OWNED VEHICLES – TO AND FROM SCHOOL

The Board of Education may designate school personnel who are not licensed as school bus drivers to transport students between home and school in a private or district-owned vehicle with a capacity of eight or fewer passengers, excluding the driver, provided the designated school personnel meet the criteria and requirements at N.J.A.C. 6A:27-7.6(c), N.J.A.C. 6A:27-7.6(d), and this Policy.

For the purpose of this Policy, “school personnel” means any person employed by the school district pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:27-7.6(b)1.

For the purpose of this Policy, “designated individual” means an individual designated by the Board to transport students between home and school in a private or district-owned vehicle.

The Board requires the designated school personnel to meet, at a minimum, the following criteria pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:39-20.1.:

1. Be at least twenty-one years of age;
2. Possess a valid New Jersey driver’s license for a minimum of three years;
3. Have completed, within the past year, a physical examination pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:16-2., a copy of which is on file with the district;



POLICY GUIDE

4. Have completed, within the past year, a criminal history background check pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1.;
5. Have completed, within the past year, a Child Abuse Record Information (CARI) check that demonstrates no evidence of abuse;

OPERATIONS

8662/page 2 of 3

Transportation by Private or District-Owned Vehicles – To and From School

6. Have submitted, to the district, a driver history abstract that demonstrates evidence of no alcohol- or drug-related motor vehicle violations in the past five years;
7. Provide written consent to allow the district to conduct monthly motor vehicle record checks pursuant to N.J.S.A. 39:2-3.4.c.; and
8. Have completed the training required pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:39-19.1a.c. and N.J.S.A. 18A:39-19.2.

No later than August 15 of each year, the district shall provide, to the Executive County Superintendent, the following:

1. A list of school personnel who have been designated to provide student transportation between home and school;
2. A copy of each designated individual's driver history abstract documenting that, in the previous five years, the individual has not committed an alcohol- or drug-related motor vehicle violation, or any other motor vehicle violation, that would disqualify the individual from transporting students pursuant to Title 18A or Title 39 of the New Jersey Statutes; and
3. Documentation of automobile liability insurance for bodily injury and property damage in an amount in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:27-1.6(a).

School personnel shall not transport students between home and school pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:27-7.6(b) and this Policy if the school personnel are not included



POLICY GUIDE

on the list required at N.J.A.C. 6A:27-7.6(d) and this Policy or if the list is not provided to the Executive County Superintendent by the August 15 due date.

A designated individual shall immediately notify the district of any alcohol- or drug-related motor vehicle violation, or any other motor vehicle violation, that would disqualify the individual from transporting students pursuant to Title 18A or Title 39 of the New Jersey Statutes, if the violation occurs in the current school year during which the individual has been designated to transport students between home and school.

OPERATIONS

8662/page 3 of 3

Transportation by Private or District-Owned Vehicles – To and From School

The district shall access, on a monthly basis, each designated individual's driving record to ensure the individual has not committed a disqualifying offense.

If the district discovers that a designated individual has committed a disqualifying offense, pursuant to Title 18A or Title 39 of the New Jersey Statutes, the district shall immediately notify the Executive County Superintendent of the offense and shall immediately remove the individual from the list of designated drivers.

Any vehicle used to transport students only pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:27-7.6(a), N.J.A.C. 6A:27-7.6(b), or this Policy shall meet all State and Federal standards and requirements specific to the vehicle and in accordance with the transported student's IEP, if applicable.

Any vehicle used to transport students only pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:27-7.6(a), N.J.A.C. 6A:27-7.6(b) or this Policy shall be exempt from the requirements at N.J.A.C. 6A:27-7.1, N.J.A.C. 6A:27-7.2(a), N.J.A.C. 6A:27-7.4, N.J.A.C. 6A:27-7.9, and N.J.A.C. 6A:27-11.1.

A designated individual shall be exempt from the requirements at N.J.A.C. 6A:27-11.2, N.J.A.C. 6A:27-11.3, and N.J.A.C. 6A:27-12.1 except as set forth at N.J.A.C. 6A:27-7.6.

N.J.S.A. 18A:39-20.1.

N.J.A.C. 6A:27-7.1; 6A:27-7.2; 6A:27-7.4; 6A:27-7.6; 6A:27-7.9;
6A:27-11.2; 6A:27-11.3; 6A:27-12.1

Adopted: _____, 2026



