Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES Policy
Series 6000 – Students
Policy #6415 – STUDENT CELL PHONE USE

In compliance with New York State Education Law, no student while on school grounds during the school day shall use an internet-enabled device. A student may use an internet-enabled device during the school day if one of the following exceptions applies:

1) Supplied by the BOCES and used under the direction of a teacher for an educational purpose;
2) The device has no internet capability;
3) Authorized by a BOCES teacher for a specific educational purpose;
4) To manage a student's healthcare;
5) In the event of an emergency;
6) For translation services;
7) Use is part of student's IEP;
8) Use is part of student's 504 Plan;
9) Otherwise required by law; or
10) A school psychologist, social worker or counselor determines on a case by case basis if the student is a caregiver.

The parent/legal guardian may contact their student during the school day by contacting the main office of the program their child attends.

Students will be required to store their internet-enabled device in the following ways:

Students must store their Internet-enabled devices in designated on-site storage areas during the school day. On-site storage areas may include, but are not limited to, student lockers, designated storage bins in classrooms, or secure storage areas in the school's/program's main office. The designated on-site storage areas must be easily accessible to students. Building Principals/Program Administrators will communicate the procedures for storing and retrieving devices, ensuring that students understand their responsibilities in using the on-site storage facilities provided.

This policy will be posted on BOCES website and reviewed annually.

"Internet-enabled devices" OR "internet-capable" means and includes any smartphone, tablet, smartwatch, or other device capable of connecting to the Internet and enabling the user to access content on the Internet, including social media applications. "Internet-enabled devices" does not include: 1. Non-Internet-enabled devices such as cellular phones or other communication devices not capable of connecting to the Internet or enabling the user to access content on the Internet; Such devices may only be used by students after a written request from a parent/caregiver is approved by the building principal/program administrator; or 2. Internet-enabled devices supplied by the Home School District or the BOCES that are used for an educational purpose.

"School day" means the entirety of every instructional day as required by Education Law Section 3604(7) during all instructional time and non-instructional time, including but not limited to homeroom periods, lunch, recess, study halls, and passing time.

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Annually the BOCES will conduct an analysis and place on its website the following information:

Non-identifiable demographic data of students who have faced disciplinary action for non-compliance and analysis of any demographic disparities in enforcement of the policy. If a statistically significant disparate enforcement impact is identified, such report shall include a mitigation action plan.

Adopted: 7/29/2025
Reviewed: 5/13/2026