

**Port Angeles School District Administrative Procedure Students and
Telecommunication Devices**

It is assumed that students will be accessing the electronic communications system including but not limited to the Internet, Google Apps for Education, and Microsoft Office 365 on a routine bases. **Parent/guardian must sign an Internet Opt-Out form (2022F)** in order to inform the district if they do not wish their student to have access to the Internet, Google Apps for Education, and Microsoft Office 365.

Definitions:

- A. *Sexting* means sending, forwarding, displaying, retaining, storing or posting sexually explicit, lewd, indecent or pornographic photographs, images or messages by or on a cell phone, computer or other electronic means during school hours or school activities on or off campus; while on school district property, during any recess, lunch or leave periods on or off school district property; or beyond the hours of school operation if the behavior detrimentally affects the personal safety or well-being of school-related individuals, the governance, climate or efficient operation of the school; or the educational process or experience.
- B. *Disrupting the Learning Environment*: means any intentional gesture, any intentional electronic communication or any intentional written, verbal or physical act or statement initiated, occurring, transmitted or received by a student at school that a reasonable person under the circumstance should know will have the effect of:
 - 1. Insulting, mocking or demeaning a student or group of students causing substantial disruption in, or substantial interference with, the orderly operation of the school; or
 - 2. Creating an intimidating, threatening, hostile or abusive educational environment for a student or group of students through substantially severe, persistent or pervasive behavior.
- C. *Third parties* include, but are not limited to coaches, school volunteers, parent/guardian, school visitors, service contractors or others engaged in district business or activities that are not directly subject to District control at inter-district and intra-district athletic competitions or other school events.

Reporting Violations:

Any student, staff member, parent/guardian or third party who has knowledge of conduct in violation of this policy or any student who feels he/she has been a victim of sexting, menacing, retaliation or reprisal in violation of this policy shall immediately report the concerns to:

- A. The building principal or his/her designee;
- B. A teacher who will be responsible for notifying the building principal or designee immediately if the matter cannot be adequately addressed by the teacher, or warrants administrative intervention;
- C. A counselor, who is responsible for notifying the building principal or designee immediately if the matter cannot be addressed by the counselor or is sufficiently serious to warrant administrative intervention; or
- D. The superintendent of schools or designee.

Investigating:

The principal or designee shall be responsible for timely investigation if a complaint made under this policy. The investigation, witness statements, and evidence shall be documented along with the outcome of the investigation.

In the course of the investigation, administrative staff will not send, receive or unnecessarily view or transmit sexting photographs or any other inappropriate images on either the district's or their personal electronic devices. The examination or viewing of the evidence/information will be limited to the extent necessary to determine that misconduct occurred.

Parent/Guardian Notification:

Parent/guardian of all students identified in the report shall be notified of the investigation and informed of their students' involvement in the incident.

Discipline:

Students whose behavior violates this policy will be subject to discipline up to and including expulsion. Law enforcement will also be notified when conduct may violate criminal laws.

In addition to discipline, the district will assist students and/or parent/guardian to resolve concerns and issues prior to the use of the formal criminal complaint process. These interventions may include consultation, counseling, education, mediation and/or other opportunities for problem-solving.

In imposing discipline the administrator will take into consideration the context of the events, all relevant circumstances, and the parties' prior behavior, the nature of the behavior and its potential harm and the emotional and/or physical harm resulting from the reported party's actions. Exceptional misconduct penalties may be imposed, if in the opinion of the administration it is warranted.

Adoption Date: 08/23/2010

Revised Dates: 06/2010, 12/2012, 08/17/2016, 5/25/2017