



Use of Personal Mobile Devices and Social Media

In response to ministerial orders issued on June 17th, 2024, Edison School will be issuing a ban on personal mobile devices and social media during instructional time. This policy will be effective September 1, 2024.

“Personal mobile device” means any personal electronic device that can be used to communicate with or access the internet, such as a cellphone, tablet, laptop, or smartwatch.

“Social Media” refers to any web-based messaging service or mobile technology or applications that allows users to create or share media for the purposes of social dialogue. Examples include, but are not limited to, Discord, Snapchat, or Instagram.

The two following limited exceptions will apply:

- Limited use of personal mobile devices must be permitted for health or medical reasons or to support special learning needs.
- Limited use of personal mobile devices may be permitted for educational purposes.

It is strongly recommended that students in K-8 leave devices at home. Students who bring personal mobile devices to school must store them in their locker. In Grades 9-12, laptops may only be brought into class upon the specific request of the teacher. Cellphones, tablets, and smartwatches are not permitted in classrooms.

Students are not permitted to bring personal mobile devices into the classroom during lunch hour. During lunch recess, K-9 students must go outside or participate in activities in the gym.

Students in Grades 10-12 are permitted access to personal mobile devices during lunch recess and breaks; however, social media should not be accessed.

Please note that field trips are considered instructional time; if personal mobile devices are brought on field trips, they must be turned off or set to silent and stored in students' backpacks.

Edison School's Personal Mobile Devices and Social Media policy will be included in the principal's welcome message every year before school begins; it will also be published in the student handbook and accessible on Edison School website.

It is the role of students, parents, and staff to enforce ministerial orders and ensure students comply with school policies. Failure to comply with Edison School's Personal Mobile Devices and Social Media Policy will result in seizure of the device and notice home that the school's policy was violated. Upon first violation, students may pick up their device from the office at the end of the day. If the student violates the policy again, Edison School staff will closely communicate with parents and no device will be allowed on campus, regardless of whether it is stored in the student's locker.