

# QUESNEL JUNIOR SCHOOL

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August 28, 2024

## **RE: Personal Electronic Devices – School District 28 – Quesnel Junior School**

Dear Parents/Guardians,

On January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024 the Province announced three actions for the safety and well-being of students in relation to digital technology. The announcement included restrictions on the use of cell phones in schools, which must be in place for the 2024/25 school year.

**Per Ministry and District policy, Quesnel Junior School will implement the following policy:**

**In September 2024 students are expected to store their personal electronic devices\* in their lockers during instructional time. Only at the teacher's discretion/direction, an exemption may be made when the directed use of such devices supports a specific curricular objective and is part of instructional planning.**

**The following procedures will be used for violations of these expectations:**

- **1<sup>st</sup> time bringing device to class without permission** – The student will hand in their device and it will be stored securely in the office until the end of the day. The student is responsible for collecting their device from the office at the end of the day. We expect students to comply with this request without becoming argumentative or defiant. Students not complying with the request will move into the discipline process. Issues taking place in the last block of the day will require the device to be in the office the next day. Parents will be contacted.
- **2<sup>nd</sup> time bringing device to class without permission** – The student will hand in the device and a parent/guardian may be asked to pick up the device.
- **3<sup>rd</sup> time bringing device to class without permission** – The family, student and Principal team will work together to create a device plan which includes the student handing in their device daily, to be stored securely in the vault for a defined period of time.

\*"Personal Electronic Internet-Connected Devices" include, but are not limited to, cell phones, smart watches, tablets, computers, portable game systems.

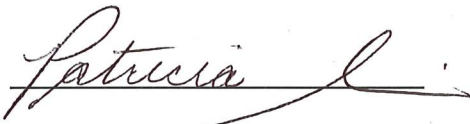
**Continuing to disregard these Provincial, District and School expectations may result in consequences per the Code of Conduct and may include suspension and/or other disciplinary consequences.**

We understand that many parents/guardians use text messages to communicate with their children during the day. Students are able to check their phones outside of class times; during lunch break, and after school. For emergency situations, we ask that you contact the school office, 250-747-2103, and we will pass along your message, or have your child contact you. These changes are intended to support a focused learning environment for your young people and to help reduce the addictive and negative impacts these devices are having on our young teens.

**We ask that you support our staff and discuss this change with your child before the upcoming school year.**

If you have questions or concerns about these new expectations, please contact either of the Principal team at the school.

In partnership,



Patricia Simpson  
Principal, Quesnel Junior School



Dean Morrow ,  
Vice-Principal, Quesnel Junior School