

DUFFERIN-PEEL CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

BOARD POLICY / REGULATIONS

Board Policy Number:	8.12
Subject:	Personal Electronic Devices (PED) on School Premises
Effective Date:	(522) January 30, 2007

It is the policy of the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board to provide a safe and productive workplace and learning environment by regulating the use of Personal Electronic Devices (PED) on school premises.

Existing and emerging wireless, mobile and smart technologies are presenting new challenges for Catholic educators in providing a Christ centred learning and working environment.

In the spirit of creating a positive Catholic climate for all our school communities, with the aim of improving student achievement, increasing school safety and protecting individual privacy, the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School board asserts that school Principals, in fulfillment of their legislative responsibilities, will regulate the use of personal electronic devices (PED) on school premises and during school-sanctioned activities.

**GENERAL DEFINITION OF A
PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICE (PED)**

Personal Electronic Devices (**PEDs**) are **Wireless** and/or **Portable Electronic Handheld Equipment** that include, but are not limited to, existing and emerging **Mobile Communication Systems** and **Smart Technologies** (cell phones, smartphones, walkie-talkies, pagers, etc.), **Portable Internet Devices** (mobile managers, mobile messengers, BlackBerry™ handsets, etc.), **PDAs** (Palm® organizers, pocket PCs, etc.), **Handheld Entertainment Systems** (video games, CD players, compact DVD players, MP3 players, iPods®, Walkmen™, etc.), digital or film **Cameras**, digital or analogue **Audio Recorders** or **Video Recorders** (tape recorders, camcorders, etc.), **Spy Gadgets** (spy cameras, covert listening devices, etc.), and any other **Convergent Communication Technologies** that do any number of the previously mentioned functions.

PEDs also include any current or emerging **Wireless Handheld Technologies** or **Portable IT Systems** that can be used for the purpose of communication, entertainment, data management, word processing, wireless internet access, image capture/recording, sound recording and information transmitting/receiving/storing, etc.

See General Administrative Procedures, 541.00, Personal Electronic Devices on School Property - Student Use; and 542.00, Personal Electronic Devices on School Premises – Use of, By Employee and Visitor

REGULATIONS

8.12 PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES (PED) ON SCHOOL PREMISES

The policy for use of Personal Electronic Devices (PED) on school premises shall be in accordance with the Education Act, the Safe Schools Act 2000, and the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board's Catholic Code of Conduct 2001, as revised.

It is the policy of the Board that Personal Electronic Devices be kept out-of-sight, turned off and not used on school premises or during school-sanctioned events.

The school Principal, in conjunction with the support of his/her school staff, is responsible to ensure the implementation and management of this policy at the school level.

The Board regulates the use of Personal Electronic Devices on school premises by prohibiting the following uses:

- a) The use of a PED that compromises the academic integrity of the school or individuals within the school;
- b) The use of a PED that interferes with or disrupts the academic day or the teaching-learning environment;
- c) The use of a PED that violates a person's reasonable expectation of privacy;
- d) The use of a PED that compromises personal and/or school safety;
- e) The use of a PED that facilitates the commission of a crime;
- f) Any other use of a PED which the school Principal deems compromises or interferes with school security, personal safety, individual privacy or academic integrity;

The school Principal (or designate) may authorize limited acceptable uses of Personal Electronic Devices on school premises, or during school-sanctioned activities, for a specific designated purpose.

See General Administrative Procedures, 541.00, Personal Electronic Devices on School Property - Student Use;

and

542.00, Personal Electronic Devices on School Premises – Use of, By Employee and Visitor.