Tri-County
Regional Centre for Education

TRI-COUNTY REGIONAL CENTRE FOR EDUCATION
POLICY and PROCEDURES

TITLE	EFFECTIVE DATE	REVISION DATE	PAGE
No. 760 **MOBILE DEVICE USE** **BY STUDENTS**	June 22, 2004	March 6, 2018	2

It is the policy of the Tri-County Regional Centre for Education to encourage the use of digital technologies in schools.

> **PROCEDURE** Under Policy 760

Preamble

The Tri-County Regional Centre for Education recognizes that in this electronic age many have access to the use of mobile devices; however, these devices cannot be allowed to disrupt the learning of other individuals. There are times and places that are more appropriate than others for the use of communications equipment. All mobile devices are to be turned off during instructional times in instructional areas, unless otherwise directed by the teacher.

Definitions

Instructional areas/times are defined as any time or place where learning is taking place. This includes the classroom, labs, field trips, sporting events, etc.

Mobile devices have become affordable and provide users with 24/7 access to ideas, content, resources, people and communities. These devices fall into five basic categories and all represent personally owned devices that may show up in classrooms:

- *Laptop/notebook/netbook computers* are portable computers that can be used with or without the internet.

- *Smart phones/handhelds* are phones that can connect to both internet and cellular networks (e.g., Blackberry, Android, iPhone, personal digital assistants, etc.)

- *Tablets* can vary from laptop-like computers to large size smartphones *(e.g.,* iPad, Android tablet, Microsoft Surface, etc.)

- *E-book readers (Kindle, Kobo, etc.)*

PROCEDURE Under Policy 760 Cont'd

- *Audio MP3 Players (iPod, etc.)*

The policies outlined in this document are intended to cover all available mobile device technologies, not just those specifically listed above.

Web Access

The Tri-County Regional Centre for Education provides its users with access to the Internet, including web sites, resources, content, and online tools. That access will be restricted in compliance with provincial and/or Tri-County Regional Centre for Education network acceptable use policies (see Tri-County Regional Centre for Education Policy 861 – Network Access and Use) as well as school-level policies. Web browsing may be monitored and web activity records may be retained indefinitely. Users are expected to respect that the web filter is a safety precaution, and should not circumvent it when browsing the Web.

Policy

1. The use of mobile devices during instructional times is not permitted unless the teacher in charge has granted permission to the student to use their device.

2. All use of mobile devices must be appropriate and lawful. A student who is deemed to be in breach of this fundamental expectation will be subject to disciplinary action.

3. Students are expected to follow the Provincial School Code of Conduct while online as well as offline.

    Mobile devices are not to be used in areas where privacy is expected. These areas include but are not limited to washrooms, locker rooms, dressing rooms, etc.

4. A student violating the privacy of another student, staff member or visitor to the school while at school or on the school bus, will be subject to disciplinary action.

5. A school may decide by school policy to limit the use of mobile devices or develop other guidelines concerning use that do not conflict with the Provincial School Code of Conduct.