 **No. 231**

 **SECTION: PUPILS**

**TITLE: ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

**MEDICAL ACADEMY ADOPTED: 10/8/13**

**CHARTER SCHOOL REVISED:**

 231. ELECTRONIC DEVICES

The Board adopts this policy in order to maintain an educational environment that is safe and secure for students and employees.

Electronic devices shall include all devices that can transmit, receive or store electronic information or provide a wireless, unfiltered connection to the Internet. Examples of these electronic devices include, but shall not be limited to, radios, CD/DVD players, video players, MP3 players, handheld game devices, Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs), laser-pointers, cellular phones, smart-phones, paging devices and computers, as well as any new technology developed with similar capabilities.

When referenced in this policy, the school day shall begin from the time the student arrives at school until the time the student leaves school property.

The Board prohibits the unauthorized use of electronic devices not owned or purchased by the school by students. The Board authorizes the administration to define the educational value and permit or place restrictions on the possession or use of any electronic device currently available, or that may become available in the future, whether or not it is addressed in this policy.

Laser-pointers and other laser devices are particularly capable of causing harm and disruption and are therefore prohibited from being in a student’s possession.

Electronic Images and Photographs

The Board prohibits the taking, storing, disseminating, transferring, viewing, or sharing of obscene, pornographic, lewd, or otherwise illegal images or photographs, whether by electronic data transfer or other means, including but not limited to texting and e-mailing. Because such violations may constitute a crime under state and/or federal law, the school may report such conduct to state and/or federal law enforcement agencies.

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Such prohibited activity shall also apply to student conduct that occurs off school property if:

1. There is a nexus between the proximity or timing of the conduct in relation to the

 student’s attendance at school or school-sponsored activities.

2. The student is a member of an extracurricular activity and has been notified that

 particular off-campus conduct could result in exclusion from such activities.

3. The conduct has a direct nexus to attendance at school or a school-sponsored activity,

 such as an agreement made on school property to complete a transaction outside of

 school that would violate the Code of Student Conduct.

The Principal/CEO or designee shall annually notify students, parents/guardians and staff about the school’s electronic device policy by publishing such policy in the student handbook, newsletters, posted notices or other efficient methods.

Information will be made available on the responsible use of electronic devices for parents, staff and students, and may include information on cyber bullying, internet safety, social networking, electronic etiquette and other topics necessary for the safe and appropriate use of electronic devices.

Exceptions to the prohibitions set forth in this policy may be made for health, safety or emergency reasons with prior approval of the administration, or as required in the provision of a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) program for an exceptional student.

The School assumes no responsibility for the loss, theft, damage, or misuse of any electronic device that is brought into school buildings, onto school property, onto school vehicles/buses, and while attending school-sponsored activities.

Discipline

Violation of any part of this policy may result in consequences ranging from confiscation and loss of privileges, to detention, suspension, and referral to the Board for possible expulsion.