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Revision Date: [INSERT]

WISH
COMMUNITY SCHOOL | ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL
A WHOLE SCHOLAR APPROACH TO TK-12 EDUCATION
www.wishcharter.org

CELL PHONES, SMART WATCHES, & OTHER ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES POLICY

The WISH Charter Schools ("WISH" or the "Charter School") Board of Directors recognizes the potential for cell phones, smartphones, smart watches, and electronic communication devices (hereinafter collectively referred to as "private devices") to disrupt the learning environment of the Charter School, and adopts this Policy to permit students to possess, but not use private devices while on school grounds, or school-sponsored activities, except as otherwise provided in this Policy. Elementary and Middle school students may not bring devices on campus. Middle schoolers who bring a device must turn it upon entering campus and will have it returned at the end of the day. Students who possess any private devices must always keep them turned off, powered down, and stored in backpacks and out of view while on school grounds or at school-sponsored activities and functions. To promote this requirement, WISH may choose to provide approved storage pouches upon entry or in classrooms where all private devices may be stored securely during the school day. WISH also recognizes that students at different developmental stages require varying levels of structure, coaching, and opportunities to develop responsible technology habits. Accordingly, implementation of this policy may include developmentally appropriate expectations and supports based on student age, grade level, and educational needs, provided such distinctions serve a legitimate purpose and are applied consistently. The school prioritizes teaching and learning and reinforcing responsible device use while ensuring that private devices do not interfere with teaching, learning, student well-being, or school safety. Charter School teachers, administrators, and staff will confiscate any private devices used by a student in violation of this Policy.

All students are required to adhere to the following guidelines regarding private devices:

Private devices may be used:

- Off campus before or after school.
- In pickup/drop off zones (only with staff permission)
- Before or after any Charter School-sponsored activity occurring before or after the regular school day.
- In the case of a public safety emergency, or in response to a reasonable, perceived threat of danger.
- When a teacher or administrator of the Charter School grants permission to a student to possess or use a private device, subject to any reasonable limitation imposed by that teacher or administrator.

- When a licensed physician determines that the possession or use of a private device is necessary for the health or well-being of the student.
- When the possession or use of a private device is required in a student's individualized education program ("IEP").

TK-8th Grade:

Private devices should **not** be brought to school at all, and may **not** be used:

- During instructional classroom time, including assemblies, and any other school activity, which takes place during the regularly scheduled school day on or off campus.
- During break periods, recess, between class periods, or during lunch
- During events sponsored by the Charter School held before or after regular school hours.
- On field trips or excursions sponsored by the Charter School.

9-12th Grades:

Private devices must be powered off, stored away, and may **not** be used:

- During instructional classroom time, including assemblies, and any other school activity, which takes place during the regularly scheduled school day on or off campus.
- During events sponsored by the Charter School held during regular school hours.
- On field trips or excursions sponsored by the Charter School.

Private devices **may** be used:

- On campus before or after school
- During break periods, recess, between class periods, or during lunch

Possession of private devices is a privilege, which may be forfeited by any student who fails to abide by the terms of this Policy. Charter School employees shall remove any private device from a student's possession who is found to be violating this Policy. If a private device is heard ringing, beeping, or buzzing from inside a jacket, purse, backpack, or other similar article, whether within the immediate presence of the student or not, a Charter School employee may confiscate the private device. Parents/guardians will be contacted to pick up any confiscated private devices at the end of the regular school day or at the conclusion of a Charter School-sponsored activity.

Charter School is not responsible for preventing theft, loss, or damage to any private devices brought onto campus or at Charter School-sponsored activities.

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