

The Board of Education of School District No. 83 (North Okanagan-Shuswap)

BRIEFING NOTE

TO: Board of Education DATE: 21 May 2024

FROM: Donna Kriger, Superintendent

RE: Policy 310 – Student Code of Conduct – First Reading

Background

One of the key responsibilities of the Board of Education is to provide direction through its policy process. These include planning, developing, implementing, and evaluating policy.

The Ministry of Education and Child Care has amended the Provincial standards for Codes of Conduct Order (the "Order") to promote provincial consistency and to support boards of education in ensuring their schools have appropriate policies in place to restrict student personal digital device use. The amended Order will come into effect on July 1, 2024.

The following sections are excerpts from the amended Order:

- In this order "Personal digital device" means any personal electronic device that can be used to communicate or to access the internet, such as a cell phone or a tablet.
- Boards must ensure that the following elements are included in their codes of conduct:
 ... (D.1) one or more statements about restricting the use of personal digital devices at school for the purpose of promoting online safety and focused learning environments;
- 8 Further to section 6 (d.1), the statements about restricting the use of personal digital devices at school must address the following matters:
 - (a) restrictions on the use of personal digital devices at school, including during hours of instruction;
 - (b) use of personal digital devices for instructional purposes and digital literacy;
 - (c) use of personal digital devices that is appropriate to a student's age and developmental stage;
 - (d) accessibility and accommodation needs;
 - (e) medical and health needs;
 - (f) equity to support learning outcomes.

The Policy Committee has revised Board Policy 310 Student Code of Conduct to follow the restrictions of student personal digital device use in school.

Upon approval of this policy, an Administrative Procedure will be developed to assist SD83 schools with a consistency of practices.



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Recommendation

"That the Board of Education approve the first reading of Policy 310 – Student Code of Conduct, as presented."

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Kriger

Superintendent of Schools