

SUBJECT: PHOTOGRAPHING, VIDEOTAPING OR RECORDING
DEVICE POLICY

Supersedes: None

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Effective: August 10, 2006

Approved by: Board of Education of the
School District of City of Detroit

1. Policy

1.1 Purpose

The Board of Education of the School District of the City of Detroit (the "Board") recognizes the need to assure the protection of the privacy rights of Members of the Board, employees of the school district, its students and their parents and comply with applicable law concerning the same. This policy regulates the use and expectations of cell phones, cameras, or videotaping and voice recorders or any other type of equipment or devices used to photograph, videotape or record any form of media during meetings of the Board and its Standing Committees. While the Board recognizes the rights of the public during its Open Meetings to photograph, videotape or record and does not wish to unreasonably constrain the use of such devices, the Board has the right to regulate the use of such devices to ensure that they are used in a reasonable manner and adhere to the integrity of proprietary or confidential information, individual rights to privacy and the efficient operation of the Board and the school district.

1.2 Open Meetings

The public may use cell phones, cameras or other devices to photograph, videotape or record during meetings of the Board open to the public under the Open Meetings Act, provided, however, such use shall be orderly and shall not unreasonably interfere with or disrupt the meetings. The presiding officer shall determine when any recording device interferes with the conduct of a Board meeting and may order that an interfering device be removed.

Board members shall not use any cell phones, cameras or other recording devices to photograph, videotape or record during the course of Open Meetings as such use constitutes a willful and purposeful disruption of Board business and is contrary to the standard of ethics for Board Members. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Board Members shall not use cell phones for any purpose while seated at the table during the course of Open Meetings.

1.3 Closed Sessions and Private Meetings

The use of any cell phone, camera or other recording devices during Closed Sessions of the Board or any Standing Committee, or during private meetings between Board Members and school district employees, students or parents is strictly prohibited unless agreed to by a majority vote of the Board, the Standing Committee or school district employees, as applicable.

Legal References:

MCLA Section 15.261 et. seq. (Open Meetings Act)

MCLA Section 380.431a (2) (Powers of board as to bylaws and regulations)