Background

The ownership and use of a personal mobile device (PMD) has grown exponentially over the past decade. While personal devices offer potential opportunities for communication, information access and enhanced opportunities for instruction, personal mobile devices can also be a source of distraction that can negatively impact children's and student's mental health, engagement and learning. Regulated use of personal mobile devices in schools and throughout the Division is required to ensure the promotion of welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning and working environments. Appropriate use of personal mobile devices contributes to the safety and security of students and staff, minimizes risk to personal well-being and disruption to instruction, and protects personal privacy and academic integrity.

Personal mobile device (PMD) is defined as any personal electronic device that can be used to communicate with or access the internet, such as a cellphone, tablet, laptop or smartwatch.

Use of PMDs

Junior High students shall not access a PMD during instructional times unless:

1) documentation is provided to the principal or designate that confirms the use is for a diagnosed health or medical condition
2) documentation is provided to the principal or designate that confirms the use if for an identified special learning need.
3) given permission by the teacher for a specific educational task or purpose. Examples of specific educational uses are:

- When used in CTF Film Studies to record films.

Students in Junior High can access their PMD during break periods – for example, before and after school, class breaks and lunch breaks.

Storage of PMDs

At Rudolph Hennig, all devices brought to school are to be stored in the student's assigned locker, and either powered off or in silent mode.

PMDs shall not be on the student during class time unless documentation has been provided to the principal or designate that confirms the use is for a diagnosed health or medical condition, or an identified special learning need. PMDs may be retrieved from the storage location if teachers are having students utilize them for a specific educational purpose as outlined above.

We recommend students leave PMDs at home. Students who choose to bring PMDs to school do so at their own risk. The security and storage of these devices are the sole responsibility of the owner or user. Rudolph Hennig and Elk Island Public Schools assumes no responsibility for the safety, security, loss, repair or replacement of the PMD.

General Information
Students shall not take PMDs into test or examinations settings. PMDs also shall not be used in change rooms, washrooms, private counselling rooms or any setting that has the potential to violate a person's reasonable expectation of privacy

Progressive Discipline
At Rudolph Hennig, students will be held accountable for their behaviour and conduct as outlined in AP 350: Student Code of Conduct. If a student uses their personal mobile device when not permitted to do so, schools will follow disciplinary practices and parents/guardians will be notified as outlined below.

	Disciplinary practice
First Infraction	Confiscated until the next break period
Second Infraction	Confiscated for half a day
Third Infraction	Confiscated until the end of day-Parents notified
Fourth Infraction	Privileges revoked. PMDs not permitted at school. Can be turned in at office for storage.- Parents notified.
Subsequent Infractions	Considered repeated, willful, and blatant violation of student code of conduct, subject to suspension from school.

The principal or teacher will consider individual circumstances and may move further down the disciplinary practice as required.

Parent/Caregiver Communication with Students
Parents are asked to refrain from contacting their child/student on their PMD during the school day. Parents can contact the school office at 780-998-2216 who can facilitate contact with their child/student during the school day, if needed.