



Mikisew Cree First Nation Education Authority
Therese Tuccaro Secondary School
Personal Mobile Device Policy



Therese Tuccaro Secondary School Personal Mobile Device Policy

Limitations on the Use of Personal Mobile Devices and Social Media on School Property

Effective Date: 2025-08-11

Owned By: Billy-Joe Tuccaro, Chief

Approval: _____
Billy-Joe Tuccaro, Chief

Reviewed: 2025-05-08

Current approved documents are maintained online. Printed copies are uncontrolled.



SUMMARY OF CHANGES

This summary shows:

- All changes from last approved and published document
- The location within the document where the changes have been made

| Location of Change | Summary of Change |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| Entire Document | Creation of document |
| | |
| | |



Requirements changed in the new revision will be identified with a revision triangle beside it.

SUMMARY OF REVIEWERS

The following people were involved in the review of this Standard:

| Name | Position |
|-----------------------|--|
| Chief and Council | BCR # 000461-702-2025-2026-021, signed off August 11, 2025 |
| Kerri Ceretzke | MCFN Director of Education/Principal |
| Kanesa Shwetz | Teacher / Data Coordinator |
| Lawrence Courtoreille | Interim Chief Operating Officer |
| Yvonne Carothers | Virtual Administrator, Contractor |
| | |



CONTENTS

SUMMARY OF CHANGES 2

SUMMARY OF REVIEWERS 2

CONTENTS 3

1. ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT 4

2. GUIDING PRINCIPLES 4

3. DEFINITIONS 5

4. RESTRICTIONS 5

5. LIMITED USE EXCEPTIONS 5

6. NON-COMPLIANCE / VIOLATION BEHAVIORAL STEPS 6

7. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES 6

8. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS 7

9. REFERENCES 7



1. ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT

1.1 BACKGROUND

Cellphones and other personal mobile devices are everywhere in our daily lives, including Alberta's classrooms. These devices can help with research, learning, staying updated on various schedules, and contacting family in emergencies. However, they can also be a distraction and sometimes get misused in the classroom or school.

On June 17, 2024, the Government of Alberta announced through an Education Ministerial Order #014/2024 (see Section 9 – References) new rules to limit the use of personal mobile devices (PMDs) in classrooms during instructional time, and access to social media in Alberta's K-12 schools. All Alberta K-12 schools are required to have a policy in place for this and comply with the Ministerial Order by January 1, 2025.

These changes were announced to reduce distractions, maximize learning time, support student mental health, and reduce opportunities for cyberbullying during the school day.

1.2 PURPOSE

Mikisew Cree First Nation (MCFN) Education Authority and Therese Tuccaro Secondary School (TTSS) wish to comply with the Education Ministerial Order #014/2024 and improve learning outcomes by supporting a learning environment free of distractions that promote students' wellbeing and limits opportunities for bullying.

1.3 SCOPE

This policy outlines the standard for use, general restrictions, and limited use exceptions of cellphones and other personal mobile devices of all TTSS students.

2. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Mikisew Cree First Nation believes in preserving history and tradition while propelling progress. TTSS's goal is to provide quality and accessible education within our community. MCFN and TTSS also believe in ensuring youth have access to a supportive education environment to thrive.



3. DEFINITIONS

In this policy:

- 3.1 **Personal Mobile Device (PMD)** means any personal electronic device that can be used to communicate with or access the internet, such as a cellphone, tablet, laptop, or smartwatch.
- 3.2 **Social Media** means platforms and applications that enable users to participate, communicate, create, and share content through interactive or social dialogue. Social media includes apps, weblogs, social blogs, wikis, Internet Forums, instant messaging, and social network aggregation platforms. Examples include but are not limited to Instagram, SnapChat, TikTok, Facebook, and others.
- 3.3 **Instructional Time** means time scheduled for purposes of instruction, examinations/testing, and other student activities where direct student–teacher interaction and supervision are maintained. Examples include but are not limited to: in-class instruction and activities, assemblies, guest speaker activities, and field trips.
- 3.4 **Educational Use** means administrators and teachers may permit the use of personal mobile devices during instructional time for specific educational activities. These activities are planned by teachers and structured to enhance learning outcomes.

4. RESTRICTIONS

- 4.1 All TTSS students may not use personal mobile devices during instructional time.
- 4.2 All TTSS students are required to have devices powered off and stored in their locker during instructional time.
- 4.3 All TTSS students are not permitted to access social media platforms during instructional time.

5. LIMITED USE EXCEPTIONS

- 5.1 Limited use of personal mobile devices is permitted by the MCFN Director of Education/Principal for health or medical reasons, or to support special learning needs.
- 5.2 Limited use of personal mobile devices may be permitted for educational or other purposes, as determined by the MCFN Director of Education/Principal.
- 5.3 Limited access to social media may be permitted, as determined by the MCFN Director of Education/Principal.



6. NON-COMPLIANCE / VIOLATION BEHAVIORAL STEPS

If a student uses their personal mobile device when not permitted to do so, the steps below will be taken.

- 6.1 TTSS staff will confiscate the device and store it in a secure location for the duration of the instructional time. Parents/Guardians will be notified about non-compliance.
- 6.2 TTSS staff will follow disciplinary practices in alignment with the TTSS Progressive Student Discipline Policy. The MCFN Director of Education/Principal or Teacher will consider the individual circumstances including the student's social, emotional, developmental and cognitive levels, learning needs, nature and severity of the incident, effect of the behaviour upon other students, staff, and school community, previous conduct or interventions, and other relevant information.
- 6.3 Repeated non-compliance may result in further conversations with students and parents/guardians, additional restrictions, temporary confiscation, and/or prohibition of devices on school property.

7. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- 7.1 **MCFN Chief and Council** are responsible for approving and reviewing any changes to this policy annually.
- 7.2 **MCFN Director of Education/Principal** is responsible for:
 - a. ensuring compliance of all requirements outlined in this policy
 - b. as the Document Control Editor:
 - i. ensuring this policy is readily accessible to the community;
 - ii. responding to inquiries, issues or requests about this policy;
 - iii. continually monitoring, improving, and revising this policy (annually), and as relevant changes occur; and
 - iv. storing this document in the correct internal MCFN file location.
- 7.3 **TTSS Staff** (Teachers and Administrators) are responsible for
 - a. assisting with compliance of all requirements outlined in this policy;
 - b. following TTSS disciplinary practices, and
 - c. reporting repeated non-compliance to the MCFN Director of Education/Principal.
- 7.4 **TTSS Students** are responsible for complying with all requirements outlined in this policy.



- 7.5 **Parents/Guardians** of TTSS Students are responsible for :
- understanding and complying with all requirements outlined in this policy;
 - discussing the policy with their child, and
 - communicating with TTSS if there are any concerns.

8. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

EET-SUP-010 TTSS Personal Mobile Device Policy FAQs
EET-POL-006 TTSS Progressive Student Discipline Policy

9. REFERENCES

The list below outlines the documents that have been referenced in this document:

- Government of Alberta Department of Education Ministerial Order (014/2024)
chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://kings-printer.alberta.ca/Documents/MinOrders/2024/Education/2024_014_Education.pdf
- The [Canadian] Education Act, 1995
<https://www.canada.ca/content/dam/canada/employment-social-development/migration/documents/documents/English/Statutes/Statutes/E0-2.pdf>