

WEAVERLAND MENNONITE SCHOOLS

Technology Use in the Schools

July 2025

We recognize that digital devices can be used in the school setting by teachers in preparing and maintaining teaching material and also in record keeping. We also recognize that misuse of digital devices can be detrimental to one's spiritual life. Our goal is to make guidelines that will safeguard against misuse of these tools in the school setting. For that reason, the Weaverland Schools Board has set the following guidelines.

1. **Church Guidelines:** All digital devices used in the schools shall be fully compliant with Weatec. We recognize that the Internet provides much useful information, but we believe that the danger of becoming involved with the corruption on the Internet far outweighs the benefits thereof. Our Church Discipline requires that all Internet use be through Weatec.
2. **Educational Use:** Digital devices in school shall be used primarily for educational purposes.
3. **Student Use:** Digital devices are primarily for teacher use. Student's personal devices are not acceptable - see *Guidelines for School Attire, Accessories and Digital Devices*. Students may use the school's or teacher's digital devices for producing school material but must be under a teacher's supervision. Teachers must guard against unapproved material being run on the devices. All software and apps used by students (such as Candle) shall be approved by the local school board.
4. **Digital Projectors:** Projectors may be connected to a computer or digital device only when a school board approves limited use for experienced teachers. No video or multimedia may be projected, and we encourage this use to be primarily for upper grade needs.
5. **Wearable Technology:** Wearable technology such as smart watches, fitness trackers, and other digital devices shall not be worn. If a watch needs to be worn, it should be a basic model used only for keeping time.
6. **Efficient Use of Time:** Usage of digital devices during school hours should be limited to necessary use such as record keeping, lesson material, and urgent or school related communication. Phones should be kept in the teacher's pocket or on their desk, mostly out of sight. Non-urgent communications should wait till after school hours. After school hours, teachers are still expected to use their time wisely.
7. **Preference for Traditional Tools:** Use traditional tools like encyclopedias, dictionaries, and calculators when possible- especially during school hours with students.
8. **Online Research:** There is much information available online and not all is accurate or safe. Use caution when researching online and avoid researching devotional material online.
9. **Local Board Responsibility:** Each school board shall appoint someone to supervise digital device usage. Technology is constantly changing. If a digital device issue that is not clearly understood arises in a school, the local school board should discuss the question with the Weaverland School Board. Together we should be able to work out a suitable solution.