

Taking Pictures in Class

Ms. Abby Brown – Torrey Pines High School

Students should not take pictures or record video in class, whether during instruction, breaks, or other free time.

In general, I am very comfortable with technology and with students having technological devices in class for appropriate use. With more students having smartphones these days, we have more cameras in class than ever before and with digital communication, one never knows how images will be shared.

Students need to understand the following points about photography (including video) at school and in my classroom.

- Students are expected to take notes in class, not take pictures. Writing down information is part of the learning process. When I solve problems on the board or give a review lecture, for example, I am giving you permission to copy that work by hand for your own notes. If you want a copy, you need to write it down.
- I will make available in a digital format any items that I want to have available in a digital format. If I want a digitally shared copy of notes or solutions to exercises, I will share that with you.
- Taking pictures of the solution guides is not allowed. You may use the solution guides in class to check your work on assignments. The solution guides are there to support your work, not to do the work for you.
- If other students work out exercises on the board or give a presentation, that work belongs to them. You may take your own notes, but not take pictures or video. (Even if those students were to give permission, you do not have permission from me.)
- As part of our class, we video record student presentations. However, keep in mind that those recordings are not posted online and are completely contained within the classroom for instructional purposes. I will ask for your (and your parents') permission before sharing any of those videos publicly.
- Casual photography and video is not allowed. There are students in our school who have privacy restrictions established by their parents that do not permit their image to be shared. When students take pictures or video of other students (whether directly or in the background), they may not want to have their picture taken. As a teacher, it is my job to create a safe, comfortable environment for all students. Also, I do not want my picture taken every day either directly or in the background.
- Once a picture or video is taken, no one can know for sure exactly where that image will end up in the future.
- I understand that there may be exceptions to this policy for specific purposes, but any photography or video needs to be discussed with me before the pictures are taken.