

CALCULATOR POLICY

The Chariho Regional School District recognizes that calculators are used extensively in society to solve problems, both in the working environment and in everyday life. It is important for students to learn *how* and *when* to use a calculator. Skills in estimation and the ability to decide if the solution to a problem is reasonable are essential components in the effective use of the calculator. The District expects that calculators will not replace the need to learn and retain basic computational practices/facts and the use of mental math.

<u>When should calculators be used?</u>	
1.	When the focus is problem solving rather than computation.
2.	When the goal is pattern discovery and/or extension activities.
3.	To enhance the understanding of processes and concepts.
* It is important to remember that frequent skill reviews must be planned without the calculator to be sure that the skill has been retained.	
<u>When should calculators NOT be used?</u>	
1.	When the focus is skill development.
2.	When the goal is maintenance of a computation skill.
3.	When goal of assessment is evaluation of computation skills or mental math ability.

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