

KSBRC GUIDANCE ON KANSAS HOUSE BILL 2299 (2026)

Student Personal
Electronic
Communication Devices

Social Media
Use by Employees

Senate Substitute for Substitute for HOUSE BILL No. 2299: [hb2299 enrolled.pdf](#)

Required:

- Each Board of Education is required to adopt policies to comply with new Kansas law
- Policies for both aspects of the law must be in place by September 1, 2026
- Board must certify compliance to the Kansas State Board of Education by September 1
- The “recommended” effective date for both policies is the 2026-2027 school year

PART I

Student Personal Electronic Communication Devices

OBJECTIVES:

- Reduce Personal Electronic Communication Device (PECD) distractions
- Promote focused learning
- Enhance classroom engagement
- Provide limited, necessary exceptions

DEFINITIONS:

- PECD: Any wireless electronic communication device that provides for voice, text, or video communication between two or more parties. Including without limitation mobile or cellular phones, tablets, computers, watches, wireless headphones or earbuds, text messaging devices, or personal digital assistants (Exclusions: Devices owned by the school district or issued to students by the school district)
- School Day: The time from the start of school until dismissal at the end of the day on school premises. This includes all classrooms, structured or unstructured learning settings, recess, lunch, and passing periods.
- Intervention of Last Resort: No other reasonable alternative option is available

SPECIFIC PECD RESTRICTIONS:

- Prohibit use or access during school (“bell to bell”)
- Turned off and inaccessibly-stored by school or out of building

EXCEPTIONS:

- If required under IEP or Section 504 plan and PECD is Intervention of Last Resort
- If required in writing by licensed physician and PECD is Intervention of Last Resort
- Not prohibited during travel between learning experiences
- Not prohibited for virtual schools

BOE CONSIDERATIONS:

- Enable building to provide secure storage
- Building to provide phone or other communication device to contact parent or equivalent
- Require administration to develop enforcement and discipline (see KSBRC model policy)
- May authorize students leaving PECD at a house or in a vehicle (even if on school premises)
- May limit PECD use school-sponsored events outside of school day

PART II
Social Media Use by Employees

OBJECTIVES:

- Prohibiting school employees from privately or directly communicating with students through social media platforms for any non-official purpose
- Allowing only public, one-way official school communications

DEFINITIONS:

- Official school purposes: Limited to public, one-way communications about school functions, activities, or events
- Social media platform: Includes Snapchat, Instagram, Facebook, X (Twitter), TikTok, and similar sites where users create profiles and share publicly viewable content

SPECIFIC RESTRICTIONS:

- Employees may not privately or directly communicate with any student via social media platforms (except as specifically allowed).
- Employees may not require students to use any social media platform for assignments or extracurricular activities.

EXCEPTIONS:

- Permitted use only on Board-approved platforms that meet strict criteria (district-controlled where possible, monitorable/archivable, parent-accessible, retained or audited).
- Use is restricted to public, one-way communications only (e.g., official announcements, event reminders).
- All use must comply with district technology, confidentiality, and professional conduct policies.
- Exclusions: Educational websites/apps, board-approved district-controlled platforms (with monitoring, archiving, parent access, retained or audited), email, private direct messaging services (one-to-one only), and platforms primarily for posting educational materials where interaction is incidental

BOE CONSIDERATIONS:

- Must provide training on the policy and professional boundaries

- Direct Superintendent to design & implement violation report protocol and discipline procedures
- Direct Superintendent to develop a list of currently approved platforms

Disclaimer: this guidance is not intended to and does not constitute legal advice. No attorney-client relationship is created hereby. Boards should review the guidance contemporaneously with the actual legislation and proposed implementing policy. Board members should confer with their own district legal counsel.