

IOWA CITY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

# PERSONAL DEVICE, SCREEN TIME, & SOFTWARE FEEDBACK

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April 14, 2026



**IOWA CITY COMMUNITY  
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

All In for All Kids

# Objectives

**Rationale for  
Feedback**

**1**

**Review  
Timeline**

**2**

**Review and  
Discuss Potential  
Survey Questions**

**3**

# Historical Overview of Personal Device Policy

## **June - September 2024**

Book Study, Policy Research, Stakeholder Surveys

## **October - November 2024**

Board: Policy Discussions, ICCSD-ICEA Team, Board Vote (Nov.)

INFORM: Stakeholders informed of instructional time restriction

## **December 2024**

EDUCATE: Staff & Student Training on Policy/Procedures

## **January - May 2025, August - December 2025**

IMPLEMENT: Data Collection, HF 782 (April), Surveys (Spring 2025)

## **December 2025**

Data Presentation → Board Request for Potential Policy Change

# Personal Device Feedback

- Previous presentations have provided data showing a continual decrease of personal device infractions
- Discussions at recent board meetings have discussed potential revisions to the current policy that took effect in January 2025
- We are seeking feedback from our staff and families regarding the current personal device policy

# Software Feedback

- Part of the budget reductions identified reducing the cost of software used in our district
- All software programs and systems were reviewed to identify potential reductions based on:
  - Redundancy
  - Impact on student learning
  - Impact on system efficiency
- We are seeking feedback from staff on potential alternatives when considering replacement of specific programs

# Screen Time Feedback

- Feedback from the community identified a desire to review the use of screens in schools for instructional purposes
- Additional budget reductions can be achieved by revising our district's 1:1 initiative
- We are seeking feedback from our staff and families regarding the use of screens at school
- We will utilize a committee, and the above feedback, to help guide future decisions

# Potential Timeline for Policy Revisions

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## **January 13 & April 14, 2026**

Board Presentation, Discussion, Guidance

## **April 15-25 2026**

Stakeholder Surveys/Engagement, ICCSD-ICEA Team

## **May 12, 2026**

Presentation to Board, Review Survey Data, Policy Decision/Vote

## **May - June 2026**

INFORM AND EDUCATE

## **August 2026**

IMPLEMENT

# QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

# Link to Feedback Questions (Draft)

## Draft Survey Questions

### [DRAFT] STAFF SURVEY

In January 2025, our district implemented an updated [5039 - Secondary School Personal Device Policy](#), designed to reduce distractions during instructional time and support student learning. As we near the end of the school year, we are seeking your feedback on how the policy is working in practice.

This survey will also gather your input on student Chromebook use, including screen time, as well as the use of educational software, specifically in elementary classrooms. Your perspective is important in helping us understand what is working well and where adjustments may be needed.

Thank you for taking a few minutes to share your feedback.

#### Cell Phones

##### 1. What is your primary work location?

- Elementary School
- Middle School
- High School
- Other

##### 2. What is your primary employee group?

- Administrators
- Special Education Paraeducator
- Supervisory Paraeducator
- Nutrition Services
- Physical Plant/Custodians
- Secretaries
- School Counselors
- EIS, Facilitators, Support Staff
- Teachers
- Other

*[Elementary only]*

##### 1. How often do you observe issues among students related to cell phone use during school?

- Often
- Sometimes
- Rarely
- Never
- Don't Know

2. Consideration is being given to a change in the elementary personal device policy. The new policy under consideration would allow students to bring a cell phone to school for

### [DRAFT] FAMILY SURVEY

In January 2025, our district implemented an updated [5039 - Secondary School Personal Device Policy](#), designed to reduce distractions during instructional time and support student learning. As we near the end of the school year, we are seeking your feedback on how the policy is working in practice.

This survey will also gather your input on student Chromebook use, including screen time, specifically in elementary classrooms. Your perspective is important in helping us understand what is working well and where adjustments may be needed.

Thank you for taking a few minutes to share your feedback.

#### 1. In which grade level(s) is your child(ren)? (select all that apply)

- Elementary School
- Middle School
- High School

*[Middle School and High School only]*

*Our district implemented an updated cell phone policy in January of 2025 that limits phone use during class time, while still allowing use during passing time and lunch.*

*We are seeking your feedback to understand how this policy is working and whether any adjustments may be needed. Your input will help guide future decisions.*

#### 1. Overall, how familiar are you with the current cell phone policy?

- Very familiar
- Somewhat familiar
- Not very familiar
- Not at all familiar

#### 2. Based on your experience or your child's experience, how effective is the current policy at reducing distractions during class time?

- Very effective
- Somewhat effective
- Not very effective
- Not effective at all
- Not sure

#### 3. How would you describe the current balance of phone use (restricted during class, allowed during passing time and lunch)?

- About right