

Aligned Bill Brief - Senate Bill 302

Bell-to-Bell Student Device & Communication Act

SB 302 requires school districts and accredited nonpublic schools to restrict student use of personal electronic devices during instructional time and set clear rules for staff–student communication. It establishes statewide limits on staff–student social media communication while allowing local flexibility outside instructional time.

WHAT SCHOOLS MUST DO

- Prohibit personal electronic device use during instructional time
- Require devices to be turned off and securely stored away from students
 - Allow devices to be left at home or in vehicles on school property
- Establish enforcement and disciplinary procedures
- Provide a school-designated phone or device for parent contact
- **Prohibit all** private or direct staff–student communication on all social media platforms



SB 302 does NOT:

- ✗ Dictate a specific storage method or discipline
- ✗ Apply to virtual schools

WHAT SCHOOLS MAY CHOOSE TO DO

- Limit or prohibit devices at school-sponsored activities or events outside instructional time
- Approve specific social media platforms for official school use, as long as communication remains public and one-way

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STAFF-STUDENT SOCIAL MEDIA RULES

Schools must prohibit private or direct communication between employees and students via social media for official school purposes

- Only public, one-way communication is allowed
 - Announcements
 - Event information
- No DMs, private messages, or two-way communication

REPORTING & EXEMPTIONS

- Certification required by September 1, 2026 confirming adoption of required policies
- Does not apply to virtual schools
- **Device use must be allowed if:**
 - Required by a student's IEP or 504 Plan, or
 - Approved by a licensed physician for medical necessity

What is “Instructional Time”?

Bell-to-Bell

- Includes:
 - Classrooms
 - Lunch
 - Recess
 - Passing periods

Does NOT include off-campus learning

What is a “personal electronic communication devices”?

Any wireless electronic device that enables voice, text, or video communication between two or more people and is not owned or issued by the school.

This brief analyzes SB 302 as prefiled on January 6, 2026