



Craig City School District

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Memorandum Item 10b

TO: CCSD School Board Members
FROM: Jackie Hanson, Superintendent
DATE: June 19, 2025
SUBJECT: House Bill 57 - Student Cell Phone Policy & AASB Model Policy Options

House Bill 57, recently passed by the Alaska State Legislature, requires school districts to adopt a policy governing student use of cell phones and other portable electronic devices on campus. The legislation does not support a full ban or prohibition of such devices, but instead directs districts to implement necessary regulations that fit their local school context.

In response, the Association of Alaska School Boards (AASB) is preparing model policy language under **BP 5138 - Student Possession & Use of Portable Electronic Devices, Including Cellular Phones**. These model policies will provide Policy Committee and School Boards with local control in setting policy and will likely offer two (2) distinct options:

- **Option 1:** High school students (grades 9–12) may use personal devices before and after school, during passing periods, and during lunch. Elementary and middle school students (grades K–8) may only use devices before and after school. Devices must be powered off and stored at all other times.
- **Option 2:** Students may use devices only before and after school, regardless of grade level. Devices must be powered off and put away at all other times.

To ensure consistency across all of our school buildings and promote a focused learning environment, it is recommended that CCSD adopt **Option 2**. This approach provides clarity for students, staff, and families while aligning expectations districtwide.

The Board's feedback on this matter is important and will help guide upcoming discussions within the CCSD Policy Committee as we move forward with reviewing and updating BP 5138.

Suggested Motion: This is a discussion item only and requires no Board action at this time.