

Personal Electronic Device Policy Overview

July 8, 2025

Purpose of Today's Meeting



- 1. Review Executive Order 25-09
- 2. Share timeline
- 3. Clarify policy requirements
- 4. Answer questions regarding policy implementation

Executive Order No. 25-09

Goal: Improve academic outcomes by ensuring students are fully engaged in learning within a distraction-free environment that supports their wellbeing, focus, and ability to thrive academically and personally.



Oregon Department of Education

Definition

"Personal Electronic Device" means any portable, electrically powered device that is capable of:

- Making and receiving calls
- Making and receiving text messages
- Accessing the Internet independently from the school's network infrastructure

Personal Electronic Devices do **not** include a laptop computer or other device required to support academic activities.

Policy Requirement Timeline

- □ By October 31, 2025, all Oregon school districts are required to adopt a personal electronic device policy that:
 - Prohibits the use of personal electronic devices by students
 - Applies from the start of regular instructional hours until the end of regular instructional hours
- □ The policy must be implemented in full effect, no later than January 1, 2026.

Policy Requirements

- □ Provide clarity on how devices will be stored during the school day
- □ Provide direction to school personnel regarding actions that may be taken when a student violates requirements
 - Allowed actions may not authorize or otherwise result in students losing instructional time, which includes suspension or expulsion.
- □ Posted on the school district website and made available to:
 - School district personnel
 - Students
 - Parents and guardians
 - Partners who are in the school building during the school day
 - Oregon Department of Education

Policy Requirements (cont.)

Provide for the use of a personal electronic device by a student when the use complies with the terms of:

- Student's medical provider's order for the care and treatment of a medical condition.
- □ Student's IEP or 504 Plan
- A written exemption provided for the student based on guidelines adopted by the school district to allow school building administrators to accommodate individual circumstances or to further specific educational outcomes for a student.

Policy Scope and Applicability

The policy **may** exclude time when students are:

- Not on school grounds, and
- Not under the supervision of school personnel other than a school bus driver
 - If students are on the bus for educational purposes during the school day, and other staff are on the bus to supervise, the policy may be in effect.
 - If the bus driver is the only staff on the bus, the policy would not be in effect.



Responding to Instances of Noncompliance

- Responses must not result in lost instructional time
- □ **Suspension or expulsion is not permitted** when noncompliance is solely related to device use
- □ Supportive disciplinary action may be appropriate when a device is used to harass others, access inappropriate content, or engage in other prohibited behavior
- Districts are encouraged to use educational and restorative strategies
- Strong school culture and climate-building supports long-term success

What Should Districts Do Now?

- ✓ Review current district policy for alignment to Executive Order No. 25-09
- Engage with school board, staff, students, families, and community partners
- ✓ Develop or revise personal electronic device policy
- Prepare to bring policy to school board for adoption
- ✓ Post policy on website by October 31, 2025
- ✓ Stay informed by checking <u>ODE's website</u> and attending Office Hours.



Looking Ahead: We are here to help

- □ Revised <u>ODE Guidance</u> and <u>FAQ</u>
- □ Additional Office Hours
 - Thursday, July 10th, 3:00 4:00 pm
- Shared Best Practices
- ☐ Resource Toolkit
- ☐ Technical Assistance Appointments
 - ODE.mobiledevices@ode.oregon.gov



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Questions?