



**Board Meeting Date:** 11.4.24

**Title:** Electronic Communication Devices

**Type:** Discussion

**Presenter(s):** Nate Swenson, Assistant Superintendent; Patrick Bass, Principal, Valley View; Chris Holden, Principal, Normandale; Jenn Carter, Assistant Principal, Edina High School

**Description:** The discussion's purpose is to summarize the implementation progress for the updated K-12 cell phone (Electronic Communication Device) protocols and procedures.

**Recommendation:** No recommendation is being asked of the Board at this time.

**Desired Outcome(s) from the Board:** Please review the full report of information and come prepared with your initial reactions (comments/questions).

**Attachments:** [Slide Deck](#)

## **Introduction**

As a follow-up to our previous discussions on Electronic Communication Devices in our schools, I am pleased to present an update on our progress and outline the steps that have been taken to prepare for this Board report.

Since implementing our updated K-12 cell phone protocols and procedures, we have been diligently working to gather feedback and data from various stakeholders to assess the impact of these changes. Our approach included surveying families, administrative assistants, staff members, and students to ensure we captured a wide range of perspectives. Additionally, we consulted with our Emergency Management Safety Coordinator to review the protocols through a safety lens.

Importantly, we have also identified several assistive technology implications that need to be considered in policy development. These include the use of cell phones for monitoring medical conditions and controlling assistive devices for students with special needs. As we move forward, we will need to carefully balance these essential uses with our overall goals for managing electronic devices in our schools which is to support the mental health and well-being of our students while also increasing engagement in the classroom.

To complement these qualitative insights, we also collected quantitative data on cell phone infractions throughout the school year. This data provides us with a system-wide view of adherence to the new protocols and helps us identify any necessary adjustments.

We aim to use this comprehensive feedback to help inform your development of a robust Electronic Communication Device policy that serves the best interests of our students, staff, and the broader school district community. We believe this multi-faceted approach will give us a thorough understanding of the impact and effectiveness of our current protocols.

In the presentation, we will delve into the specifics of our data collection methods and the initial insights we've gathered. We welcome your initial reactions (comments, questions) as we continue to analyze and if necessary, refine our approach.