

Lyon County School District Board Memo

Date: October 22, 2024
To: Board of School Trustees
From: Dawn Huckaby, Deputy Superintendent
Re: EDBB: Use of Cellular Phones and Other Electronic Devices by Students and Employees.

Recommendation: That the Board of Trustees approve the revisions to LCSD Policy EDBB –Use of Cellular Phones and Other Electronic Devices by Students and Employees as a first reading.

Background Information:

This policy was a discussion only item at the September 24, 2024 board meeting. Since then, staff have made revisions to the policy for the board's consideration. As discussed previously, it is important that we address their role in the K12 educational environment. The presence and use of cellphones by students within our schools has pros and cons. Student use of cellphones offer convenience, connectivity, and access to learning tools. However, their presence in the classroom also raises concerns about distractions, cyberbullying, and the undermining of face-to-face interaction. It can limit student interactions with others.

Our parent/guardian survey was sent out and closed on Monday, October 14. Regarding the use of cellphones in schools, the following questions were asked:

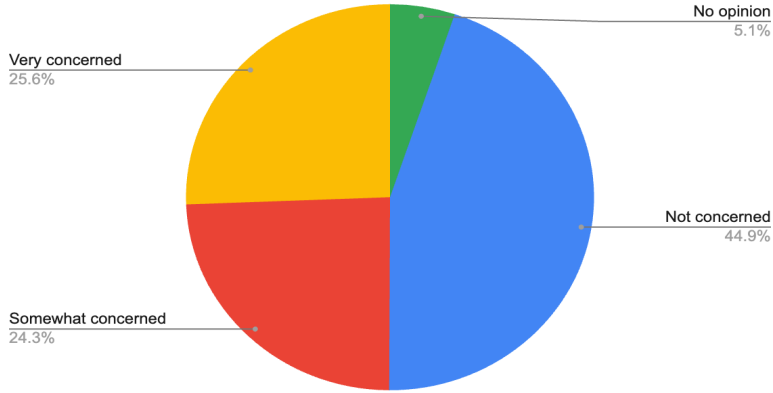
1. For this child, how concerned are you about the impact of cellphones on your child's focus and academic performance during school? (Some possible exceptions to cell phone limitation while at school may include: teacher permission, in the event of an emergency, to help manage student's health needs, and when required in a student's IEP or 504 plan.)
823 individuals responded with a total of 1596 students represented.

Overall (this includes all responses across all levels):

408 or 25.6% were very concerned
388 or 24.3% were concerned
716 or 44.9% were not concerned
82 or 5.1% had no opinion

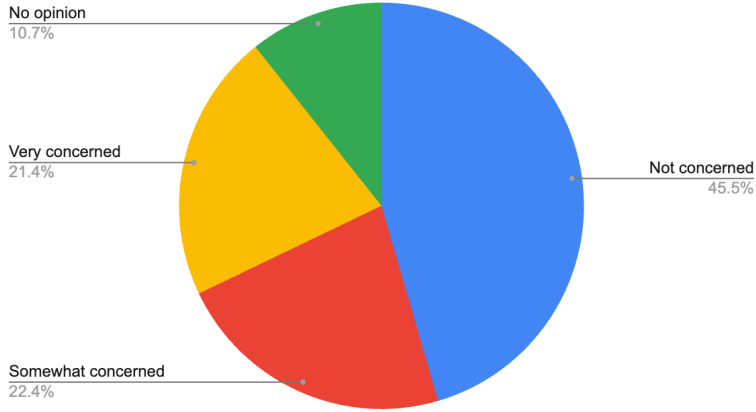
***Mission Statement** Lyon County School District fosters learning for life, empowers connected learners, promotes student ownership, and encourages discovery learning for success in a rapidly evolving world.*

Overall

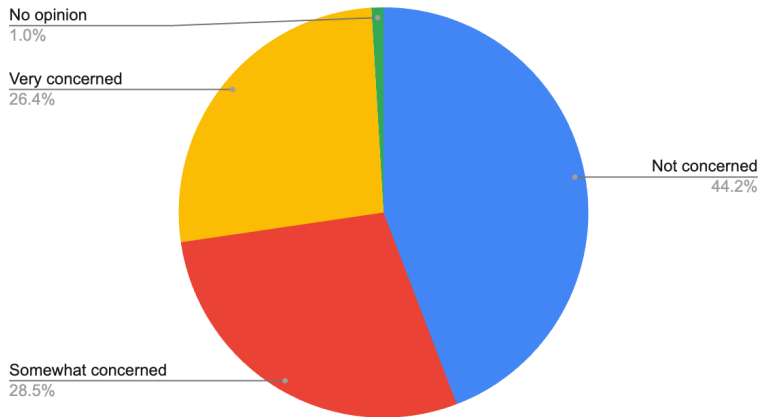


By Grade Level:

Elementary

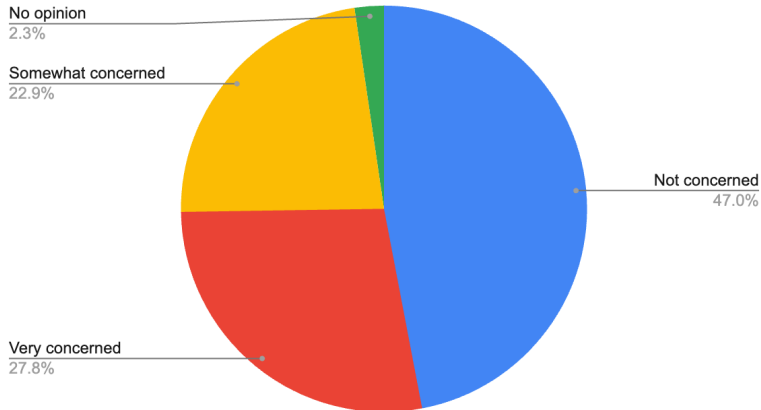


Middle School



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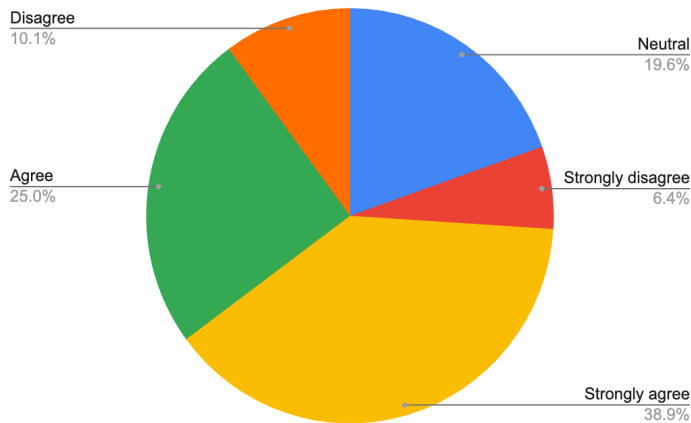
High School



2. Do you believe limiting student cell phone access school-wide will positively affect your child's social interactions and communication skills with peers? (Some possible exceptions to cell phone limitation while at school may include: teacher permission, in the event of an emergency, to help manage student's health needs, and when required in a student's IEP or 504 plan.)

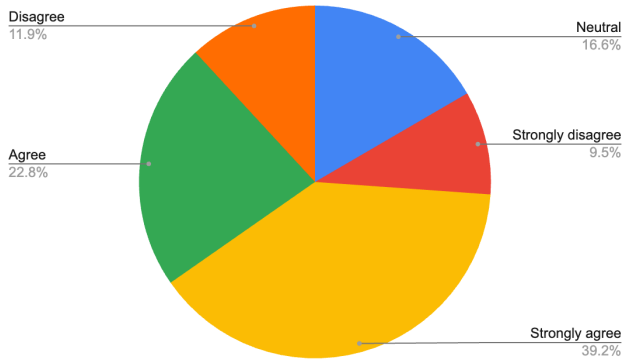
1588 responses were provided
616 or 38.8% strongly agreed
292 or 22.3% agreed
354 or 18.4% were neutral
186 or 11.7% disagreed
140 or 8.8% strongly disagreed

Elementary

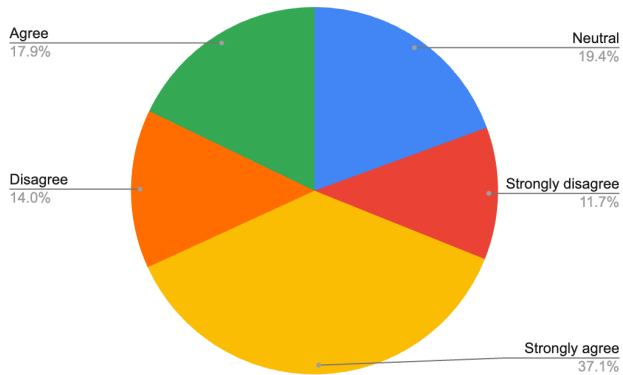


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Middle School



High School



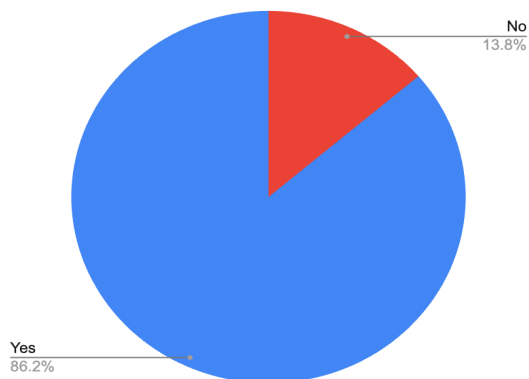
3. Do you support some level of cell phone limitation during the school day? (Some possible exceptions to cell phone limitation while at school may include: teacher permission, in the event of an emergency, to help manage student's health needs, and when required in a student's IEP or 504 plan.)

1594 responses were provided

1310 or 82.2% marked Yes

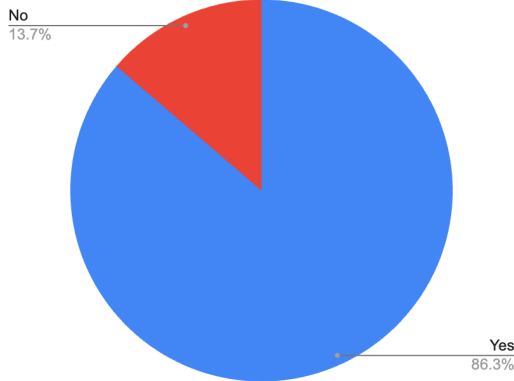
284 or 17.8% marked No

Elementary

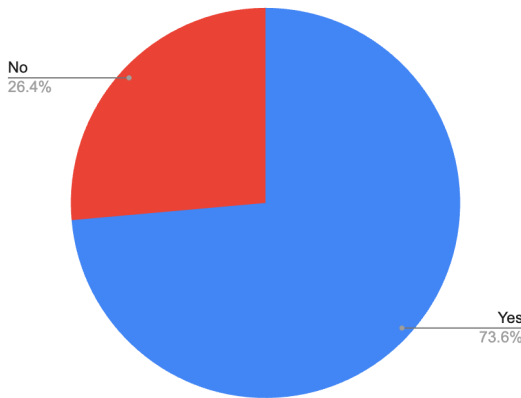


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Middle School

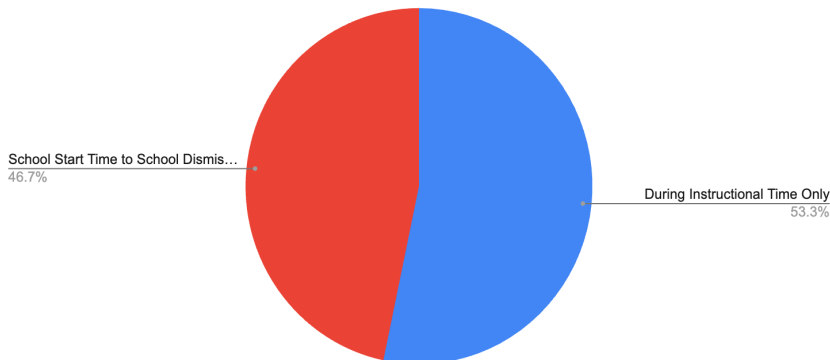


High School



4. Of the 1310 parents/guardians who responded Yes to question 3, they were then asked the fourth question: What level of cell phone limitation would you support? (Some possible exceptions to cell phone limitation while at school may include: teacher permission, in the event of an emergency, to help manage student's health needs, and when required in a student's IEP or 504 plan.)
653 responses were provided
305 or 46.7% School Start Time to School Dismissal
348 or 53.3% During Instructional Time Only

Level of Cell Phone Limitation



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Survey results suggest that there is support for managing cellphone use in schools. There are several options to consider for implementing a cellphone policy. One approach, based on the survey findings, is to limit cellphone use for K-8 students during school hours, while allowing limited use for grades 9-12 during non-instructional time. This recommendation is open for discussion and requires Board approval.

The potential impact of students is to provide a better learning environment and experience for our students while in school. Upon final approval, the next step is to update this policy on the webpage and inform staff and families of the revisions. Creating a safe learning environment for our students is a priority in our school district. These revisions to our policy aligns with our district performance plan, our vision and mission as well as supports our four domains of our Portrait of a Learner.

Budget Considerations:

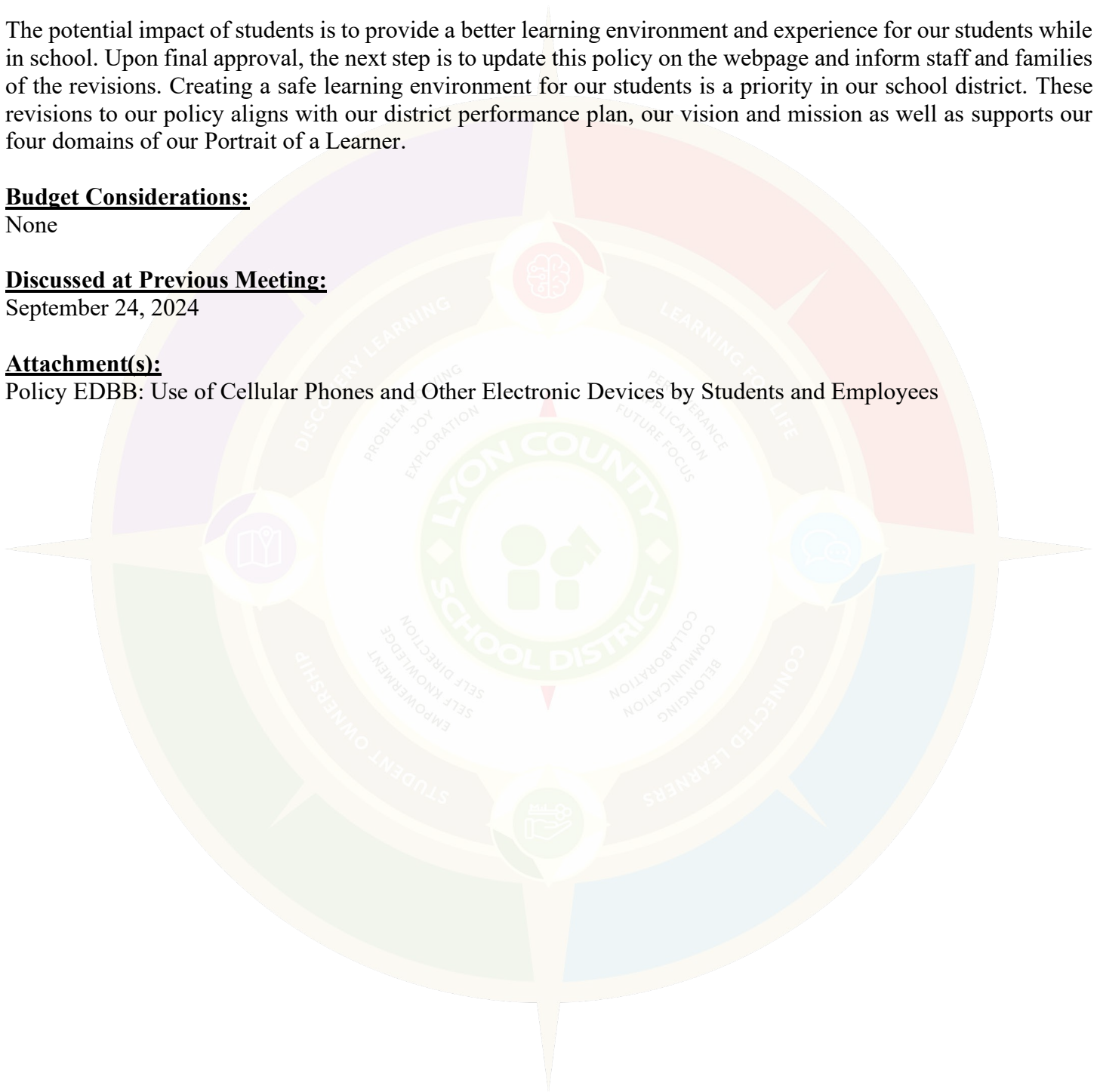
None

Discussed at Previous Meeting:

September 24, 2024

Attachment(s):

Policy EDBB: Use of Cellular Phones and Other Electronic Devices by Students and Employees



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