



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

SB3960

Introduced 2/6/2026, by Sen. Erica Harriss

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/10-20.88 new
105 ILCS 5/34-18.88 new

Amends the School Code. Requires, on or before the 2027-2028 school year, each school board to adopt and implement a wireless communication device policy that limits the use of wireless communication devices by students during instructional time to the greatest extent possible. Provides that the wireless communication device policy shall be developed in consultation with the parent-teacher advisory committee. Establishes exceptions for wireless communication device use during instructional time. Requires each school board to review its wireless communication device policy in consultation with the parent-teacher advisory committee at least once every 3 years and make any necessary and appropriate revisions to the policy. Provides that a school district shall publicly post the policy on its website. Provides that, if the school district does not operate a website, then the school district shall provide a copy of the policy to the parents or guardians of every student enrolled in the school district. Effective immediately.

LRB104 20159 LNS 33610 b

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by adding Sections
5 10-20.88 and 34-18.88 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/10-20.88 new)

7 Sec. 10-20.88. Wireless communication device policy.

8 (a) As used in this Section:

9 "Instructional time" means the time during a school day
10 students spend learning and participating in school
11 activities. "Instructional time" does not include recess,
12 passing time, or lunch time.

13 "Parent-teacher advisory committee" means a committee made
14 up of equal parts teachers employed by the school district and
15 parents of students enrolled in the school district.

16 "Wireless communication device" means any portable
17 wireless device that has the capability to provide voice,
18 messaging, or other data communication between 2 or more
19 parties, including, but not limited to:

20 (1) cellular telephones;

21 (2) tablet computers;

22 (3) laptop computers;

23 (4) gaming devices; and

1 (5) wearable devices, including smart watches or smart
2 glasses.

3 "Wireless communication device" does not include any
4 device that a school district or teacher has directly issued
5 to, provided for, or required a student to possess and use for
6 educational purposes during instructional time.

7 (b) On or before the 2027-2028 school year, each school
8 board shall adopt and implement a wireless communication
9 device policy. The wireless communication device policy shall
10 limit the use of wireless communication devices by students
11 during instructional time to the greatest extent possible. The
12 wireless communication device policy shall be developed in
13 consultation with the parent-teacher advisory committee.
14 Meetings between the school board and the parent-teacher
15 advisory committee for the purpose of creating a wireless
16 communication device policy shall be open to the public.

17 (c) Wireless communication device policies created as a
18 result of this Section shall not:

19 (1) inhibit a student from using a wireless
20 communication device that is important to a student's
21 health or well-being and is prescribed for use by a
22 licensed physician;

23 (2) inhibit a student from using a wireless
24 communication device that is required under an
25 individualized education program or a plan developed under
26 Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973;

1 (3) inhibit a student from using a wireless
2 communication device during an emergency situation; or

3 (4) inhibit a student from using a wireless
4 communication device that is authorized by the school
5 district to be used during instructional time.

6 (d) Each school board shall review its wireless
7 communication device policy in consultation with the
8 parent-teacher advisory committee at least once every 3 years
9 and make any necessary and appropriate revisions to the
10 policy.

11 (e) A school district shall publicly post the policy on
12 its website. If the school district does not operate a
13 website, then the school district shall provide a copy of the
14 policy to the parents or guardians of every student enrolled
15 in the school district.

16 (105 ILCS 5/34-18.88 new)

17 Sec. 34-18.88. Wireless communication device policy.

18 (a) As used in this Section:

19 "Instructional time" means the time during a school day
20 students spend learning and participating in school
21 activities. "Instructional time" does not include recess,
22 passing time, or lunch time.

23 "Parent-teacher advisory committee" means a committee made
24 up of equal parts teachers employed by the school district and
25 parents of students enrolled in the school district.

1 "Wireless communication device" means any portable
2 wireless device that has the capability to provide voice,
3 messaging, or other data communication between 2 or more
4 parties, including, but not limited to:

5 (1) cellular telephones;

6 (2) tablet computers;

7 (3) laptop computers;

8 (4) gaming devices; and

9 (5) wearable devices, including smart watches or smart
10 glasses.

11 "Wireless communication device" does not include any
12 device that the school district or teacher has directly issued
13 to, provided for, or required a student to possess and use for
14 educational purposes during instructional time.

15 (b) On or before the 2027-2028 school year, the board
16 shall adopt and implement a wireless communication device
17 policy. The wireless communication device policy shall limit
18 the use of wireless communication devices by students during
19 instructional time to the greatest extent possible. The
20 wireless communication device policy shall be developed in
21 consultation with the parent-teacher advisory committee.
22 Meetings between the board and the parent-teacher advisory
23 committee for the purpose of creating a wireless communication
24 device policy shall be open to the public.

25 (c) Wireless communication device policies created as a
26 result of this Section shall not:

1 (1) inhibit a student from using a wireless
2 communication device that is important to a student's
3 health or well-being and is prescribed for use by a
4 licensed physician;

5 (2) inhibit a student from using a wireless
6 communication device that is required under an
7 individualized education program or a plan developed under
8 Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973;

9 (3) inhibit a student from using a wireless
10 communication device during an emergency situation; or

11 (4) inhibit a student from using a wireless
12 communication device that is authorized by the school
13 district to be used during instructional time.

14 (d) The board shall review its wireless communication
15 device policy in consultation with the parent-teacher advisory
16 committee at least once every 3 years and make any necessary
17 and appropriate revisions to the policy.

18 (e) The school district shall publicly post the policy on
19 its website. If the school district does not operate a
20 website, then the school district shall provide a copy of the
21 policy to the parents or guardians of every student enrolled
22 in the school district.

23 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
24 becoming law.