

New Kansas Bell To Bell Law

By: Tyler Hook

Kansas students will see new restrictions on cell phones and other personal electronic devices as they return to school for the 2026-27 school year.

The changes come from **House Bill 2299**, approved by the Kansas Legislature and signed into law by Gov. Laura Kelly. The law requires public school districts and accredited non-public schools to adopt policies restricting students' use of personal electronic communication devices throughout the school day.

The restriction is essentially **"bell to bell."** Students generally cannot use

personal devices from the beginning of the school day until dismissal, including during lunch, recess and passing periods. Devices brought to school must be turned off and stored where they are inaccessible to the student.

The law covers more than cell phones. Personal tablets, computers, smart-watches, wireless headphones and earbuds can also fall under the restrictions. School-issued devices are excluded.

Exceptions are allowed when use of a device is required by a student's IEP or Section 504 plan or is medically necessary. Schools must also provide students

with a way to contact a parent or guardian during the school day.

The legislation also establishes new rules for **social media communication between school employees and students**. Employees generally may not privately or directly communicate with students through platforms such as Snapchat, Instagram, Facebook, X or TikTok. Teachers also cannot require students to use social media for assignments or extracurricular activities.

Schools can still use approved social media accounts to publicly share information about school ac-

tivities and events.

Individual school boards are responsible for determining how the new requirements will be enforced and what disciplinary consequences will apply when students violate the rules.

Kansas schools must certify to the State Board of Education by **Sept. 1, 2026**, that the required policies have been adopted.

For parents and students, the biggest change is straightforward: **once the school day begins, personal phones and similar devices are expected to be turned off and put away until dismissal.**

State of Kansas
Stanton County Cemetery District

2027

The governing body of
Stanton County Cemetery District
Stanton County

will meet on the ~~26th~~ day of August, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. at the Stanton County Courthouse for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of tax to levied. Detailed budget information is available at the Stanton County Courthouse and will be available at this hearing.

BUDGET SUMMARY

Proposed Budget 2027 Expenditures and Amount of 2026 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2027 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.

FUND	Prior Year Actual 2025		Current Year Estimate for 2026		Proposed Budget Year for 2027		
	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expenditures	Amount of 2026 Ad Valorem Tax	Proposed Estimated Tax Rate*
General	163,626	1.867	125,000	2.075	188,750	72,489	2.106
Totals	163,626	1.867	125,000	2.075	188,750	72,489	2.106
					Revenue Neutral Rate**		
					2.107		
Less: Transfers	0		0		0		
Net Expenditures	163,626		125,000		188,750		
Total Tax Levied	72,502		72,534		xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx		
Assessed Valuation	38,841,216		34,948,615		34,418,833		

Outstanding Indebtedness,

Jan 1,	2024
G.O. Bonds	0
Revenue Bonds	0
Other	0
Lease Pur. Princ.	0
Total	0

2025
0
0
0
0
0

2026
0
0
0
0
0

*Tax rates are expressed in mills.

**Revenue Neutral Rate as defined by KSA 79-2988

Susan L. Lucas
Clerk

Legal Publication

(Published in The Johnson Pioneer, Thursday, August 13th 2026) 1X