



# Owasso Public Schools

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## Policy # 1.89 Student Communication (NEW)

### Definition of Terms:

**"Electronic or digital communication"** includes, but is not limited to, emails, text messages, instant messages, direct messages, social media messages, messages sent through software applications, and any other electronic digital means of communication.

**"School personnel"** means teachers, coaches, administrators, or any other persons employed full-time or part-time by Owasso Public Schools.

### Student Communication

School personnel engaging in electronic or digital communication with an individual student shall include the student's parent or guardian in any electronic or digital communication, unless such communication is on a school-approved platform and related to school and academic communications.

Exceptions to the requirement may be made in case of an emergency, subject to subsequent notification to the parent or guardian. School personnel shall make reasonable efforts to use school-approved platforms, systems, or applications that allow automatic inclusion of parents or guardians in communications with students.

Any school personnel who is reported to be in violation of this policy shall be put on administrative leave while the school district investigates the incident and notifies the board of education or designee. If the investigation finds that no misconduct occurred, the school personnel shall be reinstated and the incident shall be noted in the school personnel's employee file.

If the investigation finds misconduct occurred, the school personnel shall be disciplined according to the school district board of education's policy, up to and including termination of employment, and the incident shall be reported to law enforcement pursuant to Section 1210.163 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

### Training

Schools shall provide training, developed by the State Department of Education, for school personnel on the student communication requirements of this section.

Effective July 1, 2024.

Legal Reference 70 O.S. § 6-401, 70 O.S. § 1210.163.