



Warren County Schools Presents at TETA 2024 Annual Conference

Warren County Schools shared its playbook for implementing phone-free policies to a captive, statewide audience at the 2024 Tennessee Educational Technology Conference (TETC) last week. Held in Chattanooga, the annual conference hosted by the Tennessee Educational Technology Association (TETA) gathered more than 750 educators, administrators, and technology professionals from across the state to explore advancements in educational technology and promote best practices in teaching and learning.

Warren County Board of Education members, Chairman Chris Cope and James Bennett, delivered a compelling presentation highlighting the district's journey in adopting and implementing its Personal Electronic Device Prohibition Policy. The policy, which prioritizes student focus and engagement, has garnered attention for its effectiveness in lessening distractions and improving connections both inside and outside of the classroom.

Dr. Courtney Bennett, Director of Virtual Learning for Warren County Schools and a second-term member of TETA's Virtual Learning Network Steering Committee, played a pivotal role in organizing the event as well as including Warren County as presenters.

"Last fall when Chairman Cope began conducting research in order to find out how cell phones were impacting our students in the classroom, I was admittedly intrigued. I felt like our school board was really leading the way in putting our students' academic needs at the forefront. As a TETA steering committee member, I knew that the work being led by our school board was something that needed to be shared with educators across the state. I drafted a proposal for Mr. Cope to present at TETC about the cell phone policy change in September and submitted it to the TETA board for approval, and last week, Mr. Cope presented to a packed house at TETC," she said.

"Chairman Cope did an excellent job discussing how the cell phone policy change came about in our district. Dr. Grant Swallows and Mr. James Bennett were also on hand to support Mr. Cope during the presentation, and they both helped answer questions posed by the group of educators in attendance afterward. It was amazing to see our board showcase something that they worked so hard to develop. I am really proud of our board for working together on something of this magnitude to support our staff and students," Dr. Bennett added.

TETA, an affiliate of the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE), has been at the forefront of promoting educational technology since 1994. Its annual conference and other events provide opportunities for professional development, networking, and sharing transformative strategies to enhance student achievement across Tennessee.

For more about the Tennessee Educational Technology Association and its initiatives, visit [TETA's official website](#).

For additional information, please contact:

Sarah Cantrell

Communications Coordinator

Warren County Schools

cantrells2@warrenschoools.com

931-668-4022 Ext. 11414