



Share Your Input: Bell-bell ban on cell phone and internet-connected devices' policy

[Mary O'Meara](#) • Wednesday, Jun 4 at

Dear Families,

In May 2025, Governor Hochul signed a new state law that bans the unsanctioned use of smartphones and other internet-connected personal devices—like tablets, smartwatches, and earbuds—during the entire school day in all New York public schools. This "bell-to-bell" ban goes into effect in September 2025 and applies during class time, lunch, recess, and study halls. *Devices for instructional use as determined by the school are not included.*

Each school district must develop a local policy for implementing the ban. This includes deciding where devices will be stored during the day and how families can reach students in an emergency. **The law allows for exemptions for students with medical or learning needs** and requires schools to seek input from parents, students, and staff.

We invite you to share your thoughts through this short survey, open through **Monday, June 9 at 8 AM**. Your feedback will help shape a policy that supports student well-being and reflects our community's values.

[Here is a link to the Thought Exchange](#) where you can submit your thoughts/opinions/suggestions. Please refrain from entering personal identifiable information. Thank you.