



Bell to Bell



MGSD Device-Free Learning

What Families Need to Know:

Beginning July 1, 2026, all Indiana schools are required to follow Indiana's "Bell-to-Bell" wireless device law (Senate Bill 78). This law is designed to help students stay focused, engaged, and connected to learning throughout the entire school day. At our schools, students will not be permitted to use personal wireless devices from the first bell to the final bell.

What Devices Are Included?

The law applies to personal wireless devices such as:

-  Cell phones
-  Smartwatches
-  Handheld gaming devices
-  Other personal wireless communication devices

What Does "Bell-to-Bell" Mean?

Students may not use personal devices during:

- Class time
- Passing periods
- Lunch
- Study halls
- Any other part of the school day

Devices must remain stored in lockers, powered down, throughout the school day.

Why Is Indiana Implementing This Law?

Research and experience from schools across the country show that reducing personal device use during the school day can:

- ✓ Increase student focus and engagement
- ✓ Improve academic performance
- ✓ Reduce distractions in classrooms
- ✓ Support positive peer interactions
- ✓ Promote student well-being and mental health

How Will Students Complete Digital Assignments?

Students will continue to use technology for learning. When teachers assign digital activities, students will use school-issued devices and approved educational technology tools. Personal devices will not be used for instructional purposes during the school day.

Are There Any Exceptions?

Yes. Indiana law allows specific exceptions when device access is necessary for:

Student Support Plans: Students whose device use is included in an:

- Individualized Education Program (IEP)
- Section 504 Plan

Medical Needs: Students who need a device to manage a documented medical condition as directed by a licensed healthcare provider.

Emergencies: When authorized by the superintendent or a designated administrator during an emergency situation.

Language Translation: Students who require language translation support as multilingual learners, with school-provided devices used whenever possible.

How Can Parents Reach Their Child During the School Day?

If you need to contact your child during school hours, please call the school office. Staff will ensure important messages are delivered promptly. Likewise, if a student needs to contact a parent or guardian, school staff will assist them.

Partnering for Student Success

We understand that personal devices have become an important part of daily life. This change is intended to create a learning environment where students can fully engage with their teachers, classmates, and educational opportunities. Together, we can create a focused, safe, and engaging learning environment for every student.

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