

Murfreesboro City School Board

Monitoring: Review: Annually, in November	Descriptor Term: Instructional Use of Digital Devices	Descriptor Code: 4.204	Issued Date: Click here to enter a date.
		Rescinds:	Issued:

The Board shall provide for the age-appropriate and instructional use of digital devices by students. “Digital devices” are defined as electronic hardware used for instructional purposes that can access, process, store, or transmit data.¹

In-person, teacher-led instruction and the use of non-electronic instructional materials shall be prioritized as the primary mode of instruction for students. District-issued digital devices for students shall be used only for instructional purposes that provide a clear educational benefit. Electronic assessments and digital instructional tools shall be developmentally appropriate and aligned with state academic standards.¹

Students shall not access social media platforms through internet services provided by the District during the instructional day. For purposes of this policy, “social media” is defined as a form of interactive electronic communication through an internet website or application by which a user creates a service-specific profile to connect with other users for communication or content sharing.¹

This policy shall not prohibit the use of digital devices for any of the following:

1. Targeted instructional support, intervention, or remediation;
2. Accommodations or services required under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, or the Americans with Disabilities Act;²
3. Administration of a universal screener adopted by the State Board of Education, a Tennessee universal screener, dyslexia screenings, state-adopted benchmark assessments, or other assessments required by state or federal law;
4. Teacher preparation, lesson planning, or professional use;
5. Public virtual schools;
6. Homebound instruction;³
7. Remote instructional days;⁴ or
8. Hybrid learning days.⁵

The Director of Schools is authorized to develop administrative directives, procedures, forms, notices, and other guidance necessary to implement this policy and to ensure compliance with applicable state and federal law.

The District shall keep parents and legal guardians informed about the digital devices and instructional technology generally used by students, including the instructional purposes for such use. The Director of Schools shall determine the manner and timing of this notice, which may include student handbooks, annual notices, school or district communications, or administrative directives.

Legal References

1. Public Acts of 2026, Chapter No. 808
2. 20 U.S.C. § 1400 et seq.; 29 U.S.C. § 794; 42 U.S.C. § 12101 et seq.
3. TCA 49-10-1101
4. TCA § 49-6-3004(i)
5. TCA § 49-6-30040

Cross References

Instructional Standards 4.101