

Agenda Item Title: Second Reading: Board Policy 4.204, *Instructional Use of Digital Devices*

Board Meeting Date: July 28, 2026

Department: Legal

Presented by: Lauren Bush

Board Agenda Category:

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|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Consent Agenda | ☒ |
| Action Item | ☐ |
| Reports and Information | ☐ |

Requires City Council Approval: Yes ☐ No ☒

Summary

This is the 2nd reading of Board Policy 4.204, *Instructional Use of Digital Devices*. This new policy was drafted to comply with Public Chapter 808 of the Tennessee Public Acts of 2026. PC 808 requires all school districts serving students in grades kindergarten through five to develop a policy establishing requirements for age-appropriate instructional use of digital devices. This policy prioritizes teacher-led instruction and non-electronic materials, limits device use to educational purposes, restricts student access to social media during the instructional day, and includes exceptions required by state law. The policy also authorizes the Director of Schools 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.

In addition to the policy which requires Board approval, the Board is being provided with the Administrative Directive that was developed to implement the policy. The Administrative Directive does not require Board approval but is being provided for informational purposes.

Staff Recommendation

Approval of Policy 4.204, Instructional Use of Digital Devices, second reading.

Fiscal Impact

No fiscal impact.

Connection to MCS's Five-Year Strategic Plan

- ☐ **Academic Success:** Raise academic achievement for all students across content areas by closing learning gaps and ensuring readiness for the next grade level so that every child is prepared for future success.
- ☒ **Ready to Learn:** Promote the success of every child by supporting their social, behavioral, and non-academic needs in partnership with families and the community so that students are ready to learn.
- ☐ **Highly Qualified Team:** Invest in the growth and retention of our employees so that every student benefits from a well-prepared and highly qualified team.
- ☐ **Operational Efficiency:** Ensure operational efficiency so that resources effectively support and

enhance student learning.

☐ **District of Choice:** Strategically promote and expand the strengths and opportunities of our schools so that we are recognized as the district of choice for families.