



Dear CEC 28,

Thank you for sharing with your resolution regarding the importance of communication about the new cell phone policy in our schools for this school year. I want to thank you for doing your part to raise awareness in your community about this policy change.

After the update to state law in May, we began engaging with key stakeholders about implementation of this new policy for our schools, including:

- Panel for Educational Policy members
- Parent Leaders
- Chancellor's Student Advisory Council
- Immigration Advocates
- Superintendents
- Union Partners

We heard a lot of very helpful feedback during this engagement. One piece of feedback stood out in particular: that we had to prioritize communicating about the new policy to families and students as much as possible, to ensure people would be prepared at the start of the 25-26 school year. I appreciate that your resolution also reflects the importance of this recommendation.

For this reason, we made communication a major priority of our implementation planning this summer. After the Panel for Education Policy approved our revised Chancellor's Regulation A-413 in June, we immediately updated all of our public resources including a dedicated webpage for the new policy (<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/about-us/policies/cell-phone-and-electronic-device-policy>) and began our social media campaign. We also began a press tour on the topic, with over 30 interviews with the Chancellor and other senior leaders.

Most importantly, we worked to prepare principals and school staff to communicate about this with their school communities. We know this is the most effective way to communicate with parents and families. We began preparing principals for this change in early July, including directing dedicated implementation funding to our schools, and providing them with resources for communicating with families, including a communications toolkit (https://docs.google.com/document/d/12xkfBJ_f8KwJ2msQpc1MDok1LEUzfJYp/edit?tab=t.0) and templates for getting key information about the policy to parents.

We are proud of the work our schools have done implementing the new policy and now that the school year has started, are seeing a lot of evidence of successful implementation. We will,

however, continue to monitor closely and my door is open for any feedback you may want to share, including how schools are engaging their School Leadership Teams on the topic as the school year progresses.

Thank you again for all you have done and continue to do to draw attention to this important policy update for our schools.

Thanks,

Katie Jedrlic

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