

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 59th Legislature (2024)

3 SENATE BILL 1321

By: Seifried

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5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to schools; directing the State Board  
8 of Education to establish certain pilot program to  
9 provide grants to certain schools to incentivize  
10 phone-free spaces; providing process for application;  
11 providing for selection of grant recipients;  
12 providing for use of grants; allowing the Board, in  
13 certain conjunction, to negotiate and enter into  
14 certain contract; requiring grant recipients to adopt  
15 certain policy; requiring grant recipients to submit  
16 certain report; providing for contents of report;  
17 requiring the Board to submit certain report by  
18 certain date; providing for codification; providing  
19 an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

21 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
22 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-126 of Title 70, unless there  
23 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

24 A. The State Board of Education shall establish a three-year  
25 pilot program to provide grants to public middle schools and high  
26 schools to incentivize phone-free spaces for student learning.

27 B. 1. A public school district seeking a grant to establish a  
28 phone-free space in a middle school or high school site shall apply

1 to the State Board of Education in the manner and on a form  
2 prescribed by the Board.

3 2. From the applications submitted, the Board shall select nine  
4 (9) recipients as follows:

5 a. three school sites, which shall be middle schools or  
6 high schools, that each have an average daily  
7 membership (ADM) of fewer than five hundred (500)  
8 students,

9 b. three school sites, which shall be middle schools or  
10 high schools, that each have an ADM of five hundred  
11 (500) students or more but fewer than one thousand  
12 (1,000) students, and

13 c. three school sites, which shall be middle schools or  
14 high schools, that each have an ADM of one thousand  
15 (1,000) students or more but fewer than one thousand  
16 five hundred (1,500) students.

17 C. Grants awarded pursuant to this section shall be used to  
18 purchase devices or equipment in which students enrolled in a grant  
19 recipient school site can store their cell phones during the school  
20 day. In conjunction with the Office of Management and Enterprise  
21 Services, the State Board of Education may negotiate and enter into  
22 a contract with a vendor to offer a state rate price to grant  
23 recipient school sites.

1 D. School sites awarded grants pursuant to this section shall  
2 adopt a policy regarding emergency use of cell phones by students  
3 during the school day.

4 E. Upon completion of the three-year pilot program, grant  
5 recipient school sites shall electronically submit a report to the  
6 State Board of Education that includes the following information:

7 1. An evaluation of the pilot program by recipient school site  
8 teachers and administrators including their perception on whether  
9 the program had an impact on student engagement in the classroom;

10 2. An evaluation of the pilot program by recipient school site  
11 students including their perception on whether the program had an  
12 impact on their ability to be engaged and learn in the classroom;

13 3. Academic performance data, disaggregated by grade level, for  
14 the students enrolled in recipient school sites over the three-year  
15 pilot program period; and

16 4. Recommendations, if any, for expanded program operations.

17 F. By December 31, 2027, the State Board of Education shall  
18 compile the information submitted pursuant to subsection E of this  
19 section and electronically submit a report to the Governor, the  
20 President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of  
21 Representatives.

22 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2024.

23 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
24 of the public peace, health, or safety, an emergency is hereby  
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1 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
2 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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