

EANS Funding LEAs Adopting Local Cell Phone Policies

Summary: Governor Little, with the support of Superintendent Debbie Critchfield, issued an executive order to school districts encouraging them to create and implement a district wide policy around managing cell phones in the classroom. Utilizing federal funds, school districts and public charter schools who adopt a cell phone policy managing use during the school day will be awarded a grant to assist with storage and other costs associated with implementing this policy.

These funds will be administered through the State Department of Education (coordinating with the State Board of Education and Governor’s Office) and sent to local school districts upon proof of adoption of a comprehensive cell phone policy for school year 2024-2025.

Expenditure Checklist, in priority area:

Classroom/Main Office Storage Devices

- Magnetic Bags for classrooms
- Cubbies for classrooms
- “Cell Phone Lockbox” at Main Office

Technology

- Cell phone jammers (except emergency calls)
- Device filters

Signage

- “Phone Free Zone” and other policy signage around school buildings.

Activities— Miscellaneous Expenditures

- Many schools with cell phone policies have spent money on miscellaneous items such as games, music and other activities for common areas such as the lunchrooms.
- Communications related to policy implementation.