

1 AN ACT relating to electronic communication with students.

2 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

3 ➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 160 IS CREATED TO  
4 READ AS FOLLOWS:

5 *(1) As used in this section,*

6 *(a) "Parent" means a parent, legal guardian, or other person or agency*  
7 *responsible for a student;*

8 *(b) "School district employee" means a school administrator, classified or*  
9 *certified employee of a school district, school volunteer, coach of an athletic*  
10 *activity, or sponsor of an extracurricular activity; and*

11 *(c) "Traceable communication system" means a school notification and*  
12 *communication system that traces all communications sent to or by a*  
13 *student and provides parents an opportunity to access and review those*  
14 *communications.*

15 *(2) (a) Each local board of education shall designate a traceable communication*  
16 *system that shall be the exclusive means for school district personnel to*  
17 *communicate electronically with students. Except as provided in subsection*  
18 *(3) of this section, school personnel shall not communicate electronically*  
19 *with students:*

20 *1. Outside of the traceable communication system designated by the local*  
21 *board of education; or*

22 *2. Through email, text messaging, social media, or other direct*  
23 *messaging systems.*

24 *(b) A school district employee shall not respond to an electronic*  
25 *communication initiated by a student outside of the traceable*  
26 *communication system without the written parental consent required by*  
27 *subsection (3) of this section.*

- 1 (3) A parent may submit written consent for a designated school district employee to  
2 communicate electronically with a student outside of the traceable  
3 communication system. The written consent:
- 4 (a) Shall be filed with the administrative office of the school prior to any  
5 electronic communications being sent to a student outside of the traceable  
6 communication system;
- 7 (b) Shall designate a single, specific school district employee that may  
8 communicate with the student outside of the traceable communication  
9 system and shall not be transferable to any other school district employee;
- 10 (c) May be revoked by a parent at any time; and
- 11 (d) May establish terms limiting electronic communication with a student,  
12 including a term requiring that a parent be included as a direct party to all  
13 electronic communications sent to the student outside of the traceable  
14 communication system. Any electronic communication with a student  
15 outside of the traceable communication system shall comply with all terms  
16 of the written consent.
- 17 (4) Notwithstanding subsections (2) and (3) of this section, this section shall not  
18 restrict any communications between a parent that is a school district employee  
19 and his or her own children.