

Unofficial Document

KENTUCKY GENERAL ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT FORM
2026 REGULAR SESSION

Amend printed copy of **HB 257/GA**

On page 41, after line 24, insert the following:

"➔SECTION 7. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 158 IS CREATED TO READ
AS FOLLOWS:

(1) As used in this section:

- (a) "Digital instruction" means lessons, assignments, testing, or activities delivered through instructional technology;**
- (b) "Elementary student" means a student enrolled in a public school for in-person instruction in kindergarten through grade five (5);**
- (c) "Instructional technology" means a laptop, tablet, computer, Chromebook, smart device, software platform, or other similar device or platform that is provided by the district and used for student learning;**
- (d) "Manipulatives" means hands-on physical learning items, including but not limited to blocks, counters, cubes, rulers, cards, science materials, and similar educational tools;**
- (e) "Public elementary school" means a public school that enrolls elementary students for in-person instruction; and**
- (f) "Traditional materials" means printed books, paper-based workbooks, notebooks, handwriting materials, and physical educational resources.**

Amendment No. SFA 3

Rep. Sen. Lindsey Tichenor

Committee Amendment

Floor Amendment

Adopted: _____

Rejected: _____

Signed: _____

LRD Drafter: _____

Date: _____

Doc. ID: XXXX

- (2) Digital instruction for elementary students shall not exceed forty-five (45) minutes per elementary student per instructional day, inclusive of all subjects.
- (3) Notwithstanding subsection (2) of this section, instructional technology used for the following purposes may be permitted and shall not count towards the daily digital instruction time limit for elementary students:
- (a) Special education needs documented in an individualized education program, or IEP, as that term is defined in 20 U.S.C. sec. 1401 or a Section 504 plan created under Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. sec. 794;
 - (b) Assistive or adaptive technology required for student access; and
 - (c) Teacher-directed demonstrations on a projector, smartboard, or television if students are not individually using such devices.
- (4) A public elementary school shall require:
- (a) At least seventy percent (70%) of elementary student assignments to be completed using paper and a pen, pencil, crayon, or similar writing tool;
 - (b) Each elementary student to have daily access to traditional materials, including printed books or printed reading material; and
 - (c) Physical manipulatives to be incorporated into foundational mathematics and science instruction for all elementary students.
- (5) A public elementary school shall not:
- (a) Permit instructional technology to replace traditional teacher instruction and traditional materials for elementary students for:
 - 1. Reading and literacy;
 - 2. Foundational mathematics;
 - 3. Science lessons requiring physical demonstration or manipulatives; and
 - 4. Social studies content knowledge;

- (b) Assign elementary students homework that requires the use of instructional technology;
- (c) Require elementary students to carry instructional technology to and from school daily; or
- (d) Replace library time with instructional technology reading labs.
- (6) Each local board of education shall adopt a written technology use policy consistent with this section to:
- (a) Promote the educational interests of elementary students;
- (b) Ensure that instructional technology supports, rather than supplants, foundational learning;
- (c) Establish daily screen-time limits for elementary students during the instructional day; and
- (d) Establish a process for a parent or guardian to request a lower screen-time limit for his or her elementary student. The policy shall require that parents and guardians receive written notice of this process within the first ten (10) days of each school year.
- (7) Each school district shall publish an annual report to the school's website that includes:
- (a) The average minutes per day that an elementary student uses instructional technology by grade level;
- (b) A list of digital instruction services used by elementary students in the school district;
- (c) Verification that traditional materials are provided to elementary students enrolled in the district as required by subsection (4)(b) of this section; and
- (d) Instructions for parents and guardians to request lower screen-time limits for their elementary student."