



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Date: February 6, 2026

Most Reverend  
Shawn McKnight, S.T.D.  
Archdiocese of Kansas  
City in Kansas  
Board Chairman

To: Chair Representative Estes and members of the Kansas House Education Committee

From: Chuck Weber, Kansas Catholic Conference

Most Reverend  
John B. Brungardt, D.D.  
Diocese of Dodge City

RE: **SUPPORT FOR HB 2421. Requiring school districts to prohibit the use of personal electronic communication devices during school hours, prohibiting any employee of a school district from using social media to directly communicate with any student for official school purposes and requiring school districts to report on the amount of screen time that certain students experience during a typical school day.**

Most Reverend  
Carl A. Kemme, D.D.  
Diocese of Wichita

Most Reverend  
Gerald L. Vincke, S.T.L.  
Diocese of Salina

The Kansas Catholic Conference is the public policy voice of the Catholic Church in Kansas. We welcome the opportunity to be heard on the proposed bill, HB 2421.

Mr. Chuck Weber  
Executive Director

This is a good piece of legislation that will benefit all Kansas families and students, including students who attend Catholic, private and public schools.

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For many years now, Kansas Catholic schools have restricted the use of cell phones by students during instructional times. These policies help reduce the noise and distractions of the culture that very often come through screen time and digital media accessed on cell phones. Time spent in school is sacred and should be focused on learning.

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Kansas Catholic Conference  
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While we offer a cautionary note about the prospect of any future overreach and unreasonable mandates on Catholic schools, the Kansas Catholic Conference supports HB 2421.

Thank you.

Chuck Weber  
Kansas Catholic Conference