### From Policy to Practice:

Lessons Learned from Implementing a Cell Phone Policy in Districts

2025 CASB Convention December 2025



Amber Elias
Vice President, Policy
& Partnership
CO Education Initiative



Andrea Haitz
Board Director
Mesa County Valley
School District 51



Dr. Brian Hill Superintendent Mesa County Valley School District 51



#### HB25-1135

- By July 1, 2026, all school districts must adopt and implement a policy about student communication devices during the school day. The policy must describe prohibitions and exceptions around communication possession and use during the school day.
- The policy may:
  - limit device usage during the school day;
  - consider emergencies;
  - delineate based on grade level;
  - allow exceptions for instructional purposes;
  - consider public and staff comment
  - consider training needs
  - take educator/union input into account
  - consider unintended burdens and costs
  - o consider evidence-based resources and research about device use;
  - consider applicability to online courses or schools;
  - o consider issues related to media literacy and social-emotional learning
- The law does not apply to a district who adopts a policy regarding use and possession of communication devices on or before August 31, 2025.

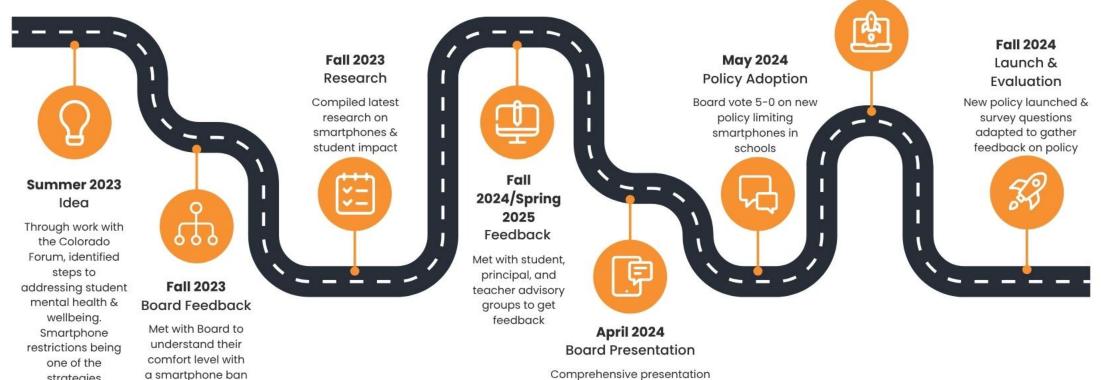
## More Social, **Less Media Timeline**

strategies



#### Summer 2024 **Launch Preparation**

Worked with school admin on procedures and protocols for Fall 2024 implementation



Comprehensive presentation to Board & public on the research and feedback that shaped the draft policy

ColoradoEdInitiative.org

# Questions?