A BILL

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To require the development of a comprehensive multi-year student technology plan for the District of Columbia Public Schools that achieves a one-to-one device-to-student ratio for grades 3-12 and provides for the adequate repairing, maintaining, and updating of information technology in schools.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the “District of Columbia Public Schools Student Technology Equity Act of 2019”.

Sec. 2. Technology equity steering committee.

(a) Every 2 years the Mayor shall convene a steering committee to develop and publish a Comprehensive Student Technology Equity Plan that will serve as a blueprint for District of Columbia Public Schools.

(b) The steering committee shall consist of one of each of the following:

(1) The Chancellor of District of Columbia Public Schools or his designees;
(2) The District of Columbia’s Chief Technology Officer or his designees;
(3) Educational stakeholders including parents, teachers, students, and administrators; and
(4) Information technology experts.

(c) The steering committee shall appoint such subcommittees as it deems appropriate.

Sec. 3. Duties.

The technology equity steering committee shall:

(1) Contract with a D.C.-based partner with experience in research, policy, and advocacy for technical assistance in meeting the educational technology needs of schools and students;

(2) Conduct a needs assessment of each District of Columbia Public School’s technology, to include an analysis of the following:

   (A) Number and type of computers available in each school;
   (B) Number and type of tablets or other equipment available in each school;
   (C) Last technological upgrade for each school;
   (D) Any school-wide technology related policies;
   (E) The level and adequacy of information technology support provided to schools for repairing and maintaining technology;
   (F) Gaps in student fluency with and access to, both in and out of school, computers, tablets, and other equipment among elementary schools;

(3) Hold at least 2 public meetings to discuss the needs assessment pursuant to subsection (b) of this section; and
(4) Submit a final Comprehensive Student Technology Equity Plan to the District of Columbia Council every two years, beginning March 1, 2020.

Sec. 4. Comprehensive student technology equity plan.

The Comprehensive Student Technology Equity Plan shall include:

(1) A vision and goals for educational technology in schools;

(2) The results of the needs assessments mandated pursuant to section 3(b);

(3) A 5-year plan to achieve or maintain a one-to-one device-to-student ratio for grades 3-12;

(5) A framework to equitably maintain and update technology in District of Columbia Public Schools;

(6) A plan to close the gaps in fluency with and access to computers, tablets, and other equipment, identified in the needs assessment completed pursuant to section 3(b);

(5) A cost estimate associated with paragraphs (2) and (3) of this section; and

(6) Identification of planned funding sources.

Sec. 5. Rulemaking.

Within 90 days of the effective date of this act, the Mayor, pursuant to Title I of the District of Columbia Administrative Procedure Act, approved October 21, 1968 (82 Stat. 1204; D.C. Official Code § 2-501 et seq.), shall issue rules to implement the provisions of this act.

Sec. 6. Fiscal impact statement.

Sec. 7. Effective date.

This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of congressional review as provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(1)), and publication in the District of Columbia Register.