



Miller Junior High School
100 E. Lindstrom St.
Aberdeen, WA 98520
(360) 538-2100



Aberdeen High School
410 North G. St.
Aberdeen, WA 98520
(360) 538-2040



Harbor Learning Center
300 N. Williams St.
Aberdeen, WA 98520
(360) 538-2180

January 2022

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I am writing to share exciting news: Grades 6-12 will be using the [Yondr](#) system to make our secondary schools phone-free to improve teaching and learning. Yondr has been used across the world in more than 1,000 schools, as well as at concerts, comedy shows, businesses, camps, weddings and special events of all kinds.

Cell phones have great utility, but under School Board Policy 3245 they are not to be used during school. The Yondr Program employs a simple, lockable pouch that stores a cell phone. We believe using these pouches will enable students to more fully engage in the teaching and learning process and establish responsible phone habits that will last a lifetime. Every student will secure their phone in a personally assigned Yondr pouch when they arrive at school. Students will maintain possession of their phones but will not use them until their pouches are opened at the end of the school day. Students are required to bring their Yondr pouch to and from school each day and are responsible for their pouch at all times.

We are encouraged by the effects of this system in learning institutions. Yondr surveyed more than 900 school partners to measure the effects of phone-free educational environments. These schools achieved notable progress in multiple areas:

- 65% saw an improvement in academic performance
- 74% saw an improvement in student behavior
- 83% saw an improvement in student engagement in the classroom

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the School Office at the number provided above. You also can visit the website where each school has posted links to more information about the Yondr system.

We will begin rolling out the new system on **Tuesday, Feb. 1, at Miller and the Harbor Learning Center and on Wednesday, Feb. 2, at AHS.** If there is an emergency and you need to contact your student, please call the School Office. Additional information can be found on the next page of this letter.

We are looking forward to seeing the progress our students will make without the stress and distraction of these devices. We appreciate your support as we implement Yondr in Grades 6-12 in the Aberdeen School District.

Sincerely,

Aaron Roiko
Principal, Aberdeen High School

How Yondr Works



POUCH

As a student enters school, they place their phone in their assigned Yondr pouch.



SECURE

The pouch is closed and secured. Each student keeps their pouch throughout the day.



EXIT

When leaving school, the student taps their pouch to an unlocking base to release their phone.

Frequently Asked Questions

What if I want to reach my child during the school day?

If a situation arises that cannot wait until school is dismissed, call the School Office at (360) 538-2040 to reach your child.

What if there is an emergency?

In case of an emergency at school, the first priority is to direct students to safety. School staff will be able to unlock Yondr pouches once they are in a safe and secure location.

Will my student's phone be safe?

Students are in possession of their phone - in their Yondr pouch - for the entire school day. We will advise students to store the pouch in their backpacks.

What if the Yondr pouch gets damaged?

The Yondr pouch is the property of the Aberdeen School District. If a student damages or tampers with a Yondr pouch, they will be held responsible. Students who damage or lose their Yondr pouch may be assessed a \$10 fee to replace it and may not have a phone at school until they are reassigned a new pouch. (Damage consists of any signs that the physical integrity of the pouch has been compromised, whether intentional or unintentional, as determined by the school or Yondr staff.)

What happens when a student violates the cell phone policy?

The phone will be confiscated.

1. The first time, the student will meet with a school official and the phone will be returned at the end of the day.
2. The second violation will result in the phone being confiscated and a parent or guardian will be contacted by a school official and may pick it up at the end of the day.
3. After a third violation, depending on the situation, an individualized plan will be developed.

How can I clean my student's Yondr pouch?

In adherence to CDC guidelines, Yondr pouches can be washed in cold water for a short cycle and dried on a short cycle and/or air dried. Pouches can also be cleaned with a disinfectant cleaner. Students are allowed to customize their pouch.