



August 2, 2024

Dear Miles Park Families,

We are making our schools a **phone-free space** to improve teaching and learning experiences using a system called Yondr. Yondr has been implemented in over 1,000 schools across 21 countries to facilitate an engaged learning environment.

This change aligns with **CMSD's board policy** that states that *"To maintain a secure and orderly learning environment, students who choose to bring a personal cellphone or electronic device to school will have their phone/device subject to collection and/or storage during the student school day."* This policy follows Ohio House Bill 250, which requires the minimization of cell phone use in schools.

The Yondr Program utilizes a simple, secure pouch that stores a phone. **Pre-K-8<sup>th</sup> grade students** will secure their phone in a personally assigned Yondr pouch when they arrive at school.

**Arrival procedure:**

1. Each student will turn their phone off prior to entering the school building
2. Each student will be assigned a specific Yondr bag. (By grade and specific number)
3. Each student will place their cellphone in their assigned Yondr bag.
4. Each student will lock their Yondr bag and hand it to the School Leader at the door.
5. Each assigned device will be placed in a lock box/shoe rack and secured in the main office.

**Dismissal:**

1. Each student will be dismissed from school by groups. When the specific group is called.  
There will be a school leader at each location to return Yondr pouches to each student in order to retrieve their cellphone.

**School Groups:** 1<sup>st</sup>: Yellow Bus Riders 2<sup>nd</sup>: Car/Daycare 3<sup>rd</sup>: Walkers/RTA

2. Each student will state their grade and specific number.
3. The school leader will unlock the pouch and hand it to the scholar.
4. Each student will retrieve their cellphone.
5. Then hand the Yondr pouch back to the school leader.
6. Each student will then leave the building.

\*Students **arriving late** or **leaving early** will pouch /unpouch their phones in the main office.

We believe that phones have great utility. We have also found that learning and social behavior improve drastically when students are fully engaged with their teachers and classmates. Yondr recently surveyed over 900 school partners to measure the effects of creating phone-free educational environments. These schools achieved notable progress in multiple areas:

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

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school directly at 216-838-4450 or attend one of our upcoming meetings about the adoption of Yondr that will occur on our back-to-school Meet the Teacher night on **August 15<sup>th</sup> from 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm**. In addition, we invite you to look at the attached FAQ document and graphic on how Yondr works.

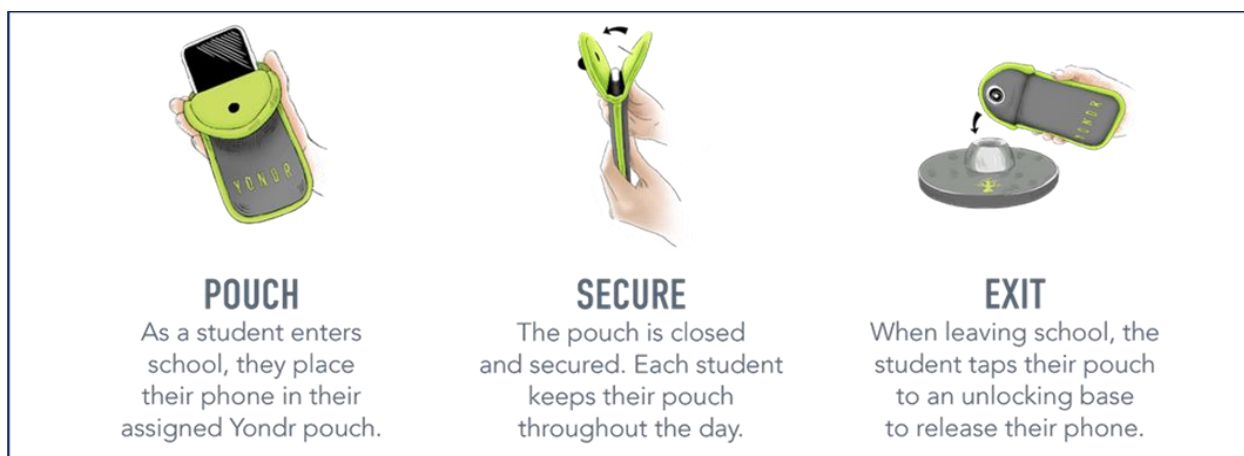
If there is an emergency and you would like to get in contact with your child, please reach out to the main office at 216-838-4450. To best serve your child, we appreciate your full support in the adoption of the Yondr Program at our school.

Thank you,

**T. Taylor-Ivory**

Miles Park Principal

## How Yondr Works



## Frequently Asked Questions

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

We want our students to be engaged in their learning. If you need to contact your child during the school day, contact the main office at 216-838-4450.

### What if there is a school emergency?

In case of a school emergency, we direct our students to safety first, following our school emergency preparedness protocol.

### Will my student's phone be safe?

Yes, the yondr pouch is secured in the main office

### What if the Yondr pouch gets damaged or a student is caught on their phone?

The Yondr pouch is the property of Miles Park School. Miles Park will follow CMSD Student Code of Conduct

### What if a student refuses to give school leadership their phone?

Miles Park will follow CMSD Student Code of Conduct

### If a student damages their pouch?

This is considered a level 3 infraction, specifically 3K - Damaging or attempting to damage property, and is a suspendable offense. There also will be a **\$35 fee** to replace the pouch .

**Note:** 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.