Eyes Up ⇧, Phones Down ⇩, LEVEL UP ⇧



Hyattsville MS Cell Phone and Electronic Device Policy

What's Not Allowed During the School Day?

- ❌ Cell Phones
- ❌ Personal AirPods
- ❌ Smartwatches and Personal Listening Devices

These items must remain locked in the provided magnetic pouch and on silent mode throughout the instructional day.

How It Works

- Upon arrival, students will place their cell phones, smartwatches, and AirPods into the magnetic-lock pouch.
- Students will keep the locked pouch on them throughout the day.
- At dismissal, students will unlock and retrieve their devices. Pouches will remain at school.
- Chromebooks (PGCPS-issued) may be used for instruction and school-approved tasks.

During State Testing

All personal electronic devices (including the locked pouch) must be stored in lockers, backpacks, or a designated area away from students and desks.

Emergency Communication

- Student Emergency? → Report to a staff member immediately so parents/guardians can be contacted as needed.
- Parent Emergency? → Call the Main Office: (301) 209-5830

🛑 **Reminder: Hyattsville MS is not responsible for lost, damaged, or stolen devices. Parents are responsible for the replacement cost of lost or damaged cell phone pouches, which is $20 per pouch.**

🛑 **Reminder: If a student attempts to unlock your pouch with a non-YONDR magnet, you risk damaging your cell phone!**

Students who demonstrate ACE Expectations will be rewarded!

Violations = Disciplinary Action

Students who do not follow the cell phone policy may face consequences for:

- **Unauthorized use during class**
- **Cyberbullying or misuse of social media**
- **Cheating or recording without permission**
- **Harassment or school disruption**

- **First offense:** Verbal warning and reminder of the cell phone policy by teacher.
- **Second offense:** The student's cell phone will be confiscated by school security or administration and held in the main office until the end of the school day. Before retrieving their phone at the end of the day, the student must discuss and review the cell phone policy with a staff member.
- **Third offense:** The student's cell phone will be confiscated by school security or administration and held in the main office until the end of the school day. The student will receive lunch detention/think room. Parents/guardians will be contacted via phone or email and informed of continued refusal to follow the cell phone policy.
- **Fourth offense:** The student's cell phone will be confiscated by school security or administration and held in the main office until the end of the school day. The student will receive lunch detention/think room. Parents and guardians will be contacted via phone or email and informed of continued refusal to follow the cell phone policy. The student will be prohibited from carrying their cell phone/pouch for two weeks. The student's cell phone will be confiscated daily upon arrival and held in the main office until the end of the day. It is the student's responsibility to come and retrieve it upon being dismissed from school.
- **Fifth offense:** The student's cell phone will be confiscated by school security or administration and held in the main office until the end of the school day or until the parent/guardian picks it up. The student will receive In School Suspension (ISS). Parents and guardians will be contacted via phone or email and informed of the continued refusal to follow the cell phone policy. The student will be prohibited from carrying their cell phone/pouch for 6 weeks. The student's cell phone will be confiscated daily upon arrival and held in the main office until the end of the day. It is the student's responsibility to come and retrieve it upon being dismissed from school.
- **Further disciplinary action will be taken against repeat offenders.**

****The administration reserves the right to adjust these consequences on a case-by-case basis if needed. For example, extreme behaviors that break the law or engage in bullying or harassment of other students may result in suspension.**

Student Name:_____ **Student Signature:** _____

Parent Name: _____ **Parent Signature:** _____

Questions and Answers

How do the Yondr pouches work?

The Yondr pouch uses a magnetic lock on the flap. Students will have to turn off or silence their devices, slip them in a pouch in the presence of a staff member, and lock the pouch. They can carry their pouch with them throughout the day or store them in their lockers. At the end of the day, students unlock the pouches using a special magnet before leaving. Pouches remain at school.

What if a student needs to leave during the middle of the day?

Students who have to leave mid-day can unlock their pouches before exiting the building and then lock them again if they return. Otherwise, students are not allowed to unlock their pouches for any purpose during the day.

What if there's an emergency and I need to contact my child?

Parents should contact the school office if they need assistance. In the event of a student emergency, the student will be instructed to notify a staff member immediately.

What if a student damages or loses a pouch?

If a student deliberately damages a cell phone pouch, school administration will schedule a meeting with the parent or guardian, and appropriate disciplinary action will be taken in accordance with the PGCPS Student Code of Conduct.

Students who repeatedly and intentionally damage pouches will lose the privilege of carrying their cell phone in a pouch. In such cases, the student's phone will be collected each morning upon arrival and securely held in the main office until dismissal. It is the student's responsibility to retrieve their phone at the end of the school day.

Students who attempt to unlock their Yondr pouch using a non-Yondr magnet risk damaging their cell phone. Yondr pouches are specifically designed to be opened only with official Yondr unlocking bases.

Please note: The school is not responsible for any damage to cell phones resulting from improper or unauthorized attempts to open the pouch.