NEW POLICY FOR 2024-25

Student Cell Phone Use

INFORMATION SHEET

In an effort to improve the learning environment and better student relationships, *THE* Colorado Springs School District 11 Board of Education has approved a new policy for student cell phone use effective August 2024.

NEW CELL PHONE **GUIDELINES**

Elementary School (Grades K-5)

Personal technology devices (cell phones, smart watches, earbuds, etc.) must be kept in backpacks.

Middle School and High School (Grades 6-12)

Personal technology devices (cell phones, smart watches, earbuds, etc.) will be secured in Yondr pouches for the duration of the instructional day.

WHY WE ARE MAKING A CHANGE

For much of the last year, the District 11 Board of Education has been focused on ways to preserve the integrity of the learning environment. As a result of extensive research and collaboration with various stakeholders, including meetings with employee groups and a working group with parents, students, teachers and administrators in the Design Lab, the District revised policies and guidelines for attendance, behavior, and cell phone use to prioritize student learning.

Many students use their phones during instructional time, causing significant distractions. Cell phone use during free periods like lunch and study hall also contributes to negative social media interactions, leading to physical conflicts and emotional distress.

IMPLEMENTATION

Yondr pouches will be used for the foreseeable future.That said, we have designed a frequent and consistent evaluation schedule to assess the success of the program. Upon implementation across the globe over the last decade, most Yondr partner districts saw improvements in academic performance, student behavior, and student engagement. We hope to see similar results here in District 11.

HOW IT WORKS



POUCH

Students Get a Personalized Pouch

Each grade 6-12 student is assigned a Yondr pouch at the beginning of the school year with a name tag and bar code attached. Students can otherwise personalize their pouch as they see fit. Students are responsible for bringing the pouch to and from school daily.



SECURE

Phones Go in the Pouch During the School Day

Upon arrival each day, students turn their phones off, place them in their pouch, and store them in a backpack, purse, or locker until the end of the school day.



EXIT

Pouches are Unlocked at Dismissal or in Case of Emergency

Pouches are unlocked as students leave for the day. Phone access can also be granted during the school day in designated areas, like school offices.