



Mercer Island School District #400

MISD Phone-Free Schools Policy

The Mercer Island School District believes social media and ubiquitous access to personal technology devices creates a significant barrier in our schools. Therefore, to foster the learning environments we desire and promote healthy social and emotional development, Mercer Island School District will restrict access to personal cell phones and personal smart watches during the school day within our schools.

Elementary students are asked to keep cell phones and non-school issued laptops/tablets/devices at home. Students at Islander Middle School and Mercer Island High School will be asked to place cell phones, smart watches and other wearable technology within a secure pouch and store it within their backpacks as they enter the school building. The pouch can be unlocked at the end of the school day as they exit the school building. If a student needs to leave school early for an approved early dismissal, medical emergency, athletic event, or school sponsored trip, students will be able to unlock their pouches at school prior to their departure. If returning to school during the instructional day, the student's personal devices would be locked within the pouch upon re-entry to the building.

Students who have a documented medical condition and who need a personal device for monitoring their condition will be provided with an alternate pouch which can provide immediate access as necessary.

Students at Islander Middle School are also prohibited from utilizing non-school issued laptops/tablets/devices and should utilize their school issued iPad for access to learning resources.

In the event of a school emergency, every location in the school is equipped with a phone that can dial 911. Our staff are trained to execute safety and emergency procedures and will direct students to safety first. Staff and students will follow our school's emergency preparedness protocols and communication with parents will occur through the district's mass notification and communication tools.

Additional information regarding our [MI Phone-Free Schools policy](#) is available on our website along with Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ).

MISD Phone-Free Schools Policy Acknowledgement

My child and I have reviewed the MI Phone-Free Schools Policy and FAQs ,and the Electronic Resource and Internet Safety Policy and Procedures (Administrative Policy 2022 and 2022P)

- Yondr pouches will be added as a fee for \$15 on each student's ASB account.
 - Students who receive financial assistance will automatically have their fee waived
 - Students who have a medical or other need and require a velcro pouch will have their fee waived
- Students are expected to keep their pouches damage free and in a working condition. If a pouch is damaged, replacement pouches are available through the technology office. The replacement cost for each pouch is \$25
- We understand the procedures and requirements to which my student must comply, including the Mercer Island Acceptable Use Policy.
- We understand that my student may be subject to discipline as a result of failing to comply with the Phone-Free Schools policy.
- (First Offense) Students will immediately be asked to put all devices in the pouch and the pouch will be taken and returned to the student at the end of day. The family will be contacted and a restorative conversation will be held.
- (Second Offense) Students will immediately be asked to put all devices in the pouch and the pouch will be taken and not returned until a parent or guardian comes to pick it up. Another restorative conversation will be held.
- Any further offenses will be handled on a case by case basis which could include future discipline which could include but not be limited to bag searches, community service, and/or other disciplinary action including after school or Saturday detention.
- Families who would like to opt-out of purchasing or utilizing a Yondr pouch can contact the schools front office. Each families situation will be reviewed on a case by case basis.

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____