



# San Mateo High School Cell Phone Free Campus

*Presentation Property of Adam Gelb - SMUHS*

A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide features several green leaves of various sizes and orientations, along with solid green circles. The largest leaf is a vibrant green with prominent veins, positioned vertically. Other smaller leaves and circles are scattered around it, some in lighter shades of green.

## The Implementation Process

- Oct. 2018 - Agenda item at SLT Meeting
- Nov. 2018- Introduced at a faculty meeting. Asked for teachers to pilot
- Dec. 2018- 1st meeting with 13 volunteer teachers
- Jan.- Mar. 2019- Volunteer teachers pilot in their classes
- Mar. 2019- 1st student and teacher survey
- Mar. 2019- SLT votes for full implementation for Fall 1st semester
- April & May- Student Services hold 15 town meetings for all stakeholders
- Apr. 2019- Faculty meeting with student panel, teacher input and Alison Silvestri
- June/ July- Revision of Student and family handbooks
- August- Distribution of pouches & collection of cell phone free agreement contracts



# Strategic Implementation

## Teacher Feedback:

At Site Leadership Meetings in the Fall of 2018, numbers of teachers were concerned about the amount of time they spent asking students to “put away their phones.”

545 Electronic Misuse Referrals in 2018-2019

At the start of each period, students grab pouch from bag, cell phones goes inside pouch, student locks/closes the pouch.

At the end of the period, students unlock the pouch and they may have their phone for the remainder of the day.

This pilot lasted 12 weeks and feedback from teachers was collected.

## A Closer Look:

Committee was formed to discuss what a pilot could look like in the Spring of 2019.

13 teacher volunteers (at least 1 from each department)

Implementation of pouches in individual classes

# Feedback from the Pilot

## Benefits:

- 6/ 13 teachers surveyed only want to continue with YONDR if it is bell-to-bell
- 12/ 13 think bell-to-bell is a good idea
- 12/ 13 noticed increased student attentiveness
- 11/ 13 reported improved classroom management
- 11/ 13 noticed increased engagement
- 7/ 13 noted increased instructional time



# Feedback from the Pilot

## Challenges:

- 7/ 13 reported that malfunctioning pouches were a challenge
- 10/ 13 were challenged by monitoring whether students are YONDRing properly
- 7/ 13 were challenged by students wanting to use phones for academic reasons





## Teacher Feedback

- “Having to YONDR and unYONDR each period can be time consuming. It would be easier on everyone if we just do it at the beginning and end of each day.”
- “I think I'd prefer bell-to-bell so that students are responsible for their own pouches.”
- “I would really like the entire school to participate because I feel like it just makes classroom management a bit easier. I have also seen the benefits with my students in terms of their ability to stay focused on their work or just have a conversation with their peers.”
- “As much as I think it is helpful for student engagement, singling out certain teachers to implement makes us the “bad guys.””



12 Students Volunteered to  
YONDR for the entire school  
day (12 week student pilot)

These students completed  
surveys and attended our end  
of the year staff meeting as  
panel members for a  
discussion about the  
possibility of implementation

## Feedback from the Pilot

### Benefits:

- 7/ 12 students said they were less distracted in class
- 9/ 12 students said they were better able to monitor phone use **outside of class**
- 5/ 12 students said they were more social w/ peers during the school day



# Feedback from the Pilot

## Challenges:

- 8/ 12 students said they struggled communicating with family members
- 9/ 12 students said they needed phone for academic purposes





**11/ 12 students said  
that students should  
YONDR their devices  
next year in some  
capacity**



“The only hard thing was seeing my friends on their phones when I couldn’t be on my phone. If everyone was Yondr’d it would fix this problem.”

“At first it was very challenging but now it is like any other normal thing at school”

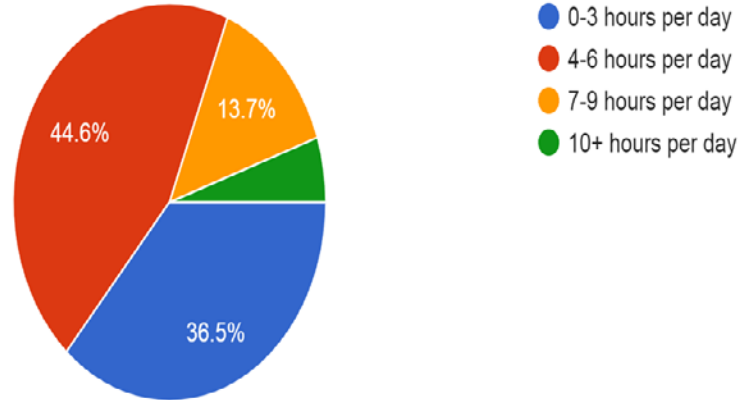
“I think it was beneficial to have my phone put away during the school day and I stayed more focused in class. But it was hard at times when i needed to communicate with people in school and outside (like family or coaches).”



## We asked students (who were in a pilot class)...

### 3. What is your estimated total daily screen time?

417 responses





# Basics for Implementation

- Every student has their own pouch
- Every teacher has an unlocking station
- Unlocking stations in various offices at start/end of day available for students
- Referral Process for YONDR violations
- Parent/ Student Meetings in late April, late May, and prior to registration
- First Semester ONLY. Staffulty Vote in December for decision for the Spring Semester



# Rationale for Bell to Bell

- Need for consistency in order to collect data from stakeholders and accurately and effectively analyze it
- Create an environment with fewer distractions
- Create an environment to encourage face to face interactions/ communication





**The Morning  
Routine...**

**What does this  
actually look  
like?**

**It will take too  
much time and  
effort!?!?**



# So how has it been going?

- Student feedback
- Parent feedback
- Teacher/Staff feedback

We will be examining grades, discipline, survey results, and anecdotal feedback....



## I heard a student share at his own IEP Meeting:

“I feel like I can finally approach people on campus and talk to them. Before, I used to feel like I was interrupting their day - everyone was on their devices. I am about to graduate, it is time to make some friends.”



# You have to be ready for the “what if...”

Green (1000+)

What if students forget the pouch or their phone?

Pink (63)

What if students don't own a phone or don't bring it to school?

Yellow (24)






What if the student has a medical condition that required them to use the phone during the school day?

# School Safety



## IMMEDIATE ACTION RESPONSE: THE BIG FIVE

When an emergency occurs, it is critical that staff members take **immediate** steps to protect themselves, their students, and other people on campus. Become familiar with The Big Five, and be prepared to perform all assigned responsibilities.

ACTION	DESCRIPTION
 <p>SHELTER IN PLACE</p>	<p>Implement to isolate students and staff from the outdoor <b>environment</b> and provide greater protection from external airborne contaminants or wildlife. Close windows and air vents, and shut down air conditioning/heating units.</p>
 <p>DROP, COVER, AND HOLD ON</p>	<p>Implement during an <b>earthquake</b> or explosion to protect building occupants from flying and falling debris.</p>
 <p>SECURE CAMPUS</p>	<p>Initiate for a <b>potential threat</b> of danger in the surrounding community. All classroom/office doors are closed and locked, and all students and staff remain inside until otherwise directed. Instruction continues as planned.</p>
 <p>LOCKDOWN/ BARRICADE</p>	<p>Initiate for an <b>immediate</b> threat of <b>danger</b> to occupants of a campus or school building and when any movement will put students and staff in jeopardy. Once implemented, no one is allowed to enter or exit rooms for any reason unless directed by law enforcement.</p>
 <p>EVACUATION</p>	<p>Implement when conditions outside the building or off-site are safer than inside or on-site. Requires moving or directing students and staff to move from school buildings to a pre-determined safe location.</p>

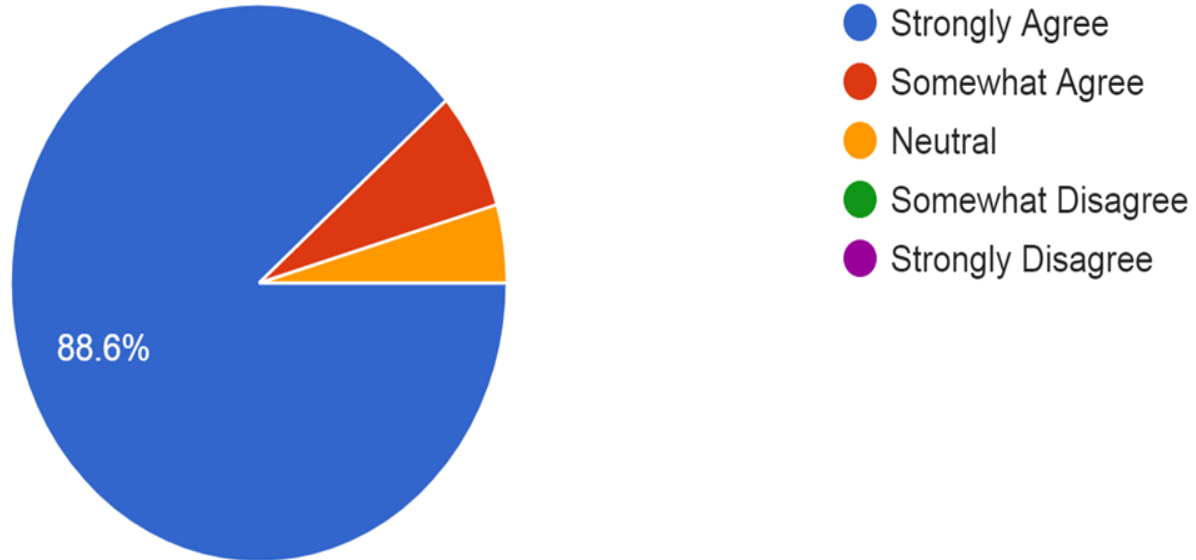


95.4% of our teachers  
think that...



# SMHS should continue to be a cell phone free school during the second semester.

88 responses





It is going to  
take some  
extra hours...

And everyone needs  
to get on board for  
this to work!!!



## Student Voice

Include the students as much as possible during the implementation process...



The students will  
adjust...

But, we have to keep in mind  
that this is a massive culture  
shift...



Electronic Device Misuse Referrals 2018-2019 - 545  
Electronic Device Misuse Referrals Fall 2019 - Less than 20



# Thanks!

ANY QUESTIONS?

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650-558-2302

I am YONDR'd during school  
hours!

