FALL 2025

JAMESTOWN HIGH SCHOOL

Distraction Free Learning
Cell Phone & Internet Enabled Device Update

NYS Bell to Bell Legislation
Students are not permitted to use their cell phones during class time, from the first bell in the morning until the last bell at the end of the school day (7:55-3:00).

JPS Cell Phone Policy & Info.
(Click here)

Why is JHS using secure pouches?
During the 24-25 School Year, there were 278 instances of student technology violations. During the 23-24 School Year there were 411 violations. We feel that secure pouches are the best way to facilitate teaching, learning, and student development.

Welcome Back!
These expectations go into effect on the first day of school, which is Wednesday September 3rd. All students should be at JHS by 7:55 AM.

Breakfast & Lunch
Students are not allowed to use their phones during the breakfast or lunch periods.

How can I contact my child?
Students are able to use landline phones in the AP Office and Main Office Area. Parents can contact their child by calling JHS at 716-483-3470.

FRESHMEN, SOPHOMORES, JUNIORS (GRADES 9-11) WILL ENTER JHS THROUGH THE MAIN DOORS



SENIORS & AM BOCES STUDENTS WILL ENTER JHS THOUGH THE "SCHOOL STORE" DOORS



Research on Cell Phone Use in Schools
Recent research shows that cell phone use in school interferes with student learning, as well as important elements of adolescent development. Cell phone use in schools may lead to lower academic performance, reduced attention and focus, increased anxiety and depression, stunted social skills, cyberbullying and social pressure.

Policy Violations

A student would be in violation of our district policy if they are using any internet-enabled device during school hours 7:55-3:00) daily, with the exception of school-issued iPads.

Internet Enabled
The NYS "Bell to Bell" Legislation includes any internet-enabled device, which include cell phones, bluetooth headphones, smartwatches, or personal devices.

For all Violations:
- Phone confiscated
- Phone call to parent
- Parent must pick up phone

Violation #1
- Consequence Assigned
  - For Example:
  - Student Detention (3:00-3:45 PM)

Violation #2
- Consequence Assigned
  - For Example:
  - Student Extended Detention (3-5 PM)

Violation #3 +
- Consequence Assigned
  - For Example:
  - Two Student Extended Detentions (3-5 PM)

- JHS Administration reserves the right to make adjustments to these guidelines on a case by case basis, based on the best interests of the child.

ADDITIONAL STUDENT INFORMATION

Arrival Times

Arrival times have not changed. Doors open for breakfast at 7:40 AM. Doors open for the school day at 7:55 AM. Students must be in their homerooms by 8:05 AM or they will be marked tardy.

Upon Arrival

Prior to entering the building, students should have their cell phones locked in their secure pouches, ready to show/present to staff members. Staff members will ensure the pouches are locked and contain students' cell phones.

Lost/Damaged Pouch

Students who do not have their school issued pouch must hand their phone to a staff member, who will put the phone into an envelope and secure the phone for the day. School issued pouches are property of the Jamestown Public Schools. Students who lose or damage their pouch must pay for a new pouch and/or turn their phone in daily so it can be secured in the AP Office. Purposely damaging a pouch will be a violation of the student code of conduct.

End of School Day

Unlocking mechanisms will be available throughout the building at 3:00 PM, when students are dismissed.

Students Short Times

Students can get their phone unlocked in the Attendance Office, when they leave the building for the day. If/when they return, they must have their phone locked in their pouch.

Student Emergencies

Students can get their phone unlocked in the AP Office in the event of an emergency.

During The School Day

Students may store their phone/secured pouch in their backpack or locker during the school day.

Secure Pouch Info

The pouches purchased by the district are called "Yonder" pouches. For more information, click on the link below:

How does a Yondr Pouch Work?



When can students get their secure pouches?

JHS Students, or their guardians, can pick up their pouches at JHS, by the bell, at the following times:

Seniors, Juniors, Sophomores (Grades 10-12): Friday August 29th from 9:00-12:00 or Tuesday September 2nd from 9:00-2:00.

Freshmen: Freshmen will receive their pouches on August 28th when they attend for Freshmen Orientation (Last Name A-L from 10:00-12:00 and M-Z 1:00-3:00).

Students to come to JHS on the first day of school without a pouch, will be issued a pouch. However, this will create a delay in the student attending homeroom and Block 1 on time.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Q: Will there be a grace period for students getting to homeroom on time with these new arrival protocols in place?

A: Yes, there will be a grace period for student arriving at homeroom as we evaluate the efficiency and timeliness of our new systems.

Q: When students arrive at school, should they have phone locked in the pouch?

A: Yes, there will be multiple lines for students to use to enter the building. Students should have their phones locked when they enter, and then should show the locked pouch to a staff member so staff members can confirm the phone is locked in the pouch.

Q: Can the student unlock their pouch?

A: Yes, but not until the end of the school day. Unlocking mechanisms will be available throughout the building so students can unlock their pouch at the end of the school day.

Q: What will the student do with the phone during the day?

A: Students are encouraged to keep their locked pouch in their backpack throughout the school day. Students may also store their locked pouch in their locker. Locks for lockers are provided to students at JHS.

Q: Will there be a "backup" at the end of the day with so many students needing to unlock their phones?

A: There will be unlocking mechanisms place throughout the building at the end of the school day, with multiple mechanisms present at the main doors. Students should be able unlock their pouch in a matter of seconds. Any delays in students leaving the building should be minimal.

Q: Can students use their cell phones during breakfast or lunch?

A: No, students are not allowed to use their phone during the lunch period because that period takes place during the school day. In order to make sure student phones are secured in pouches during the school day, students are also not allowed to use their phones during the breakfast period. Simply put, when students enter the building, their phones must be locked in their pouches.

Q: Can students use their district issued iPads during the school day?

A: Yes, students are permitted to use their district issued iPads during the school day.