YONDR

Subject: We're Going Phone-Free with Yondr

Dear Parents and Guardians,

At Sullivan STEAM Magnet School, we're committed to creating a learning environment where every student can thrive—academically, socially, and emotionally. Beginning Monday, September 15th, 2025, we will launch the Yondr Phone-Free Schools Program—a proven, bell-to-bell approach that supports student focus, well-being, and connection by removing mobile phone distractions during the school day.

For over a decade, Yondr has helped schools across all 50 states and more than 35 countries build healthier, more engaging school cultures. Their pouch-based program, combined with hands-on guidance and dedicated support, has led to powerful results:

- 86% reported improved safety and student wellness
- 84% saw increased engagement in class
- 68% experienced academic gain
- 44% reduced behavioral referrals

How the Program Works
Each student will be assigned a Yondr pouch—a secure, lockable case for storing personal devices. Students are responsible for their pouch during the school day from Advisory to Dismissal, and keeping it in good condition.

- **Upon arrival to Advisory:** Students power off their phone, AirPods, and smartwatch (or switch to airplane mode), place all devices in the pouch, and lock it.
- **During the day:** Students keep the locked pouch in their backpack or locker.
- **At dismissal:** Students unlock pouches at designated stations to retrieve their devices and place their pouches in their advisory tote so that they are ready for use the next day.

This process is quick, simple, and will be supervised by staff as part of our daily routine.

Staying Connected
With student safety as our top priority, we will follow our standard safety protocols in the event of an emergency. If you need to reach your child during the school day, please contact our main office at 612-668-5000.

We know that change takes partnership—and we're here to support a smooth transition for your family. To walk through the program and answer your questions, we'll be hosting a family information session: Date, time and location to be determined.

Thank you for your continued support as we work together to create a focused, present, and positive school environment for every student.