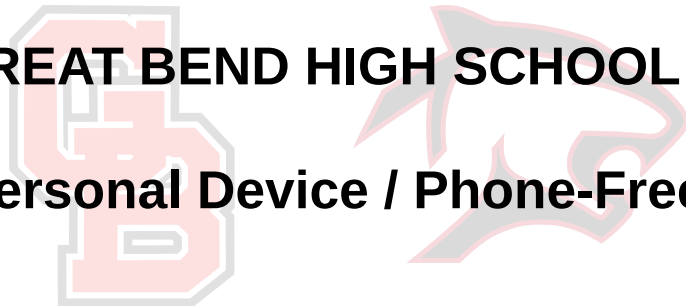




GREAT BEND HIGH SCHOOL

Student Personal Device / Phone-Free Policy

Purpose

In accordance with **Kansas House Bill 2299** (signed into law in March 2026), Great Bend High School will maintain a bell-to-bell phone-free learning environment to support student learning and school safety.

Policy Expectations

From the first bell until dismissal, students may not use or access personal electronic communication devices during the school day.

Covered devices include:

- Cell phones
- Smartwatches
- AirPods/earbuds/headphones
- Tablets
- Personal gaming or communication devices
- Any device capable of messaging, calling, internet access, or social media

*School-issued instructional devices (Chromebooks) are exempt.

Daily Procedures

1. Turn off phones and connected devices
2. Place devices in their Yondr bag
3. Lock or secure the device in front of staff as directed
4. Keep the secured device in their possession (backpack) throughout the day

Start of Class: When the bell rings, teachers will walk around their classrooms, going from student to student, ensuring their phones are turned off and in their pouches, along with their smartwatches, earbuds, etc.

Arrive After the Bell: Students will check into the office, and office staff will ask them to place their phones, smartwatches, and earbuds in their pouches before leaving the office.

Leave Before End of Day: Students will need to check out in the office, and at that time, the office staff will unlock their pouch.

End of Day: Students will unlock their pouches at various unlocking stations in the hall or near exits. If a student forgets to unlock their pouch, there will be unlocking stations located by the GBHS front entrance, south entrance, and south side of the PAC. Designated staff will place the unlocking mechanism at the unlocking stations a few minutes before the dismissal bell rings.

Activity, Athletic, Class Trips: Expectations for students' phone use on trips away from the school will be at the discretion of coaches, sponsors, and teachers.

*If a student forgets their pouch, their phone will be collected and securely stored for the day. It will be returned at dismissal.

Emergency Procedures & Safety

Student safety remains our highest priority.

During emergencies:

- Students must focus on staff and first responder instructions
- Phones can create distractions that delay emergency response
- Phone noise or light may compromise safety during lockdowns
- Social media misinformation can spread quickly and create confusion
- Parent traffic responding directly to the school may block emergency access routes

Parents needing immediate contact with students should call the school office.

Approved Exceptions

Exceptions may be approved for:

- IEP or 504 accommodations
- Documented medical needs
- Administrative approval for unique circumstances

Students with approved exceptions will receive individualized procedures.

Progressive Discipline

Violations will result in progressive consequences:

1st Offense

Parent Contact + Device confiscated + Parent/guardian must pick up the device + 1 hour detention

2nd Offense

Parent contact + Device confiscated + Parent pickup required + Full Day ISS

3rd Offense

Parent contact + Device confiscated + Parent/guardian must pick up the device + 3 days ISS

4th Offense

Parent contact + Device confiscated + Parent/guardian must pick up the device + 3 days OSS

*Parent meeting with student and administration will be set up at the request of the parent/guardian or administrator. Offenses will be entered in Skyward and will NOT reset at quarter or semester. Offenses beyond 4 will result in a meeting with the administration, parent/guardian, student, etc., to determine consequences or next steps.

Lost / Damaged Equipment

Yondr pouches are the property of Great Bend High School. Students are responsible for the care, safekeeping, and return of their assigned pouch in good working condition.

Students and/or their families are financially responsible for the replacement of any lost or damaged pouch, regardless of whether the damage results from intentional tampering, misuse, negligence, or failure to properly care for the pouch.

School-issued storage equipment:

- Students are responsible for their Yondr pouch
- Intentional damage may result in replacement fees and discipline
- Lost equipment will require replacement cost

*\$30 to replace Yondr pouch

Examples of damage:

- Tampering with locking mechanisms
- Intentional punctures or tears
- Damage that prevents secure closure

Parent Responsibilities

Parents/guardians are asked to help support this policy by:

- Avoiding texting/calling students during school hours
- If you need to contact your child during the school day, call (620) 793-1521
- Reinforcing expectations at home

Student Responsibilities

Students will:

- Follow the phone-free policy respectfully
- Secure devices daily
- Maintain assigned storage equipment
- Follow staff and teachers' (including subs, office, etc.) directions

Staff Responsibilities

Staff will:

- Enforce expectations consistently
- Provide access to communication when needed
- Support students in following procedures respectfully
- Model behaviors that follow the policy by keeping their devices stored away during class

Administrative Responsibilities

Administration will:

- Communicate policy expectations clearly
- Support consistent enforcement
- Contact the parents and inform them that their student has violated the cell phone policy
- Follow the progressive discipline plan when determining consequences for students
- Review policy effectiveness annually

Care of Yondr Bag

- Spot clean with warm water and a mild, bleach-free soap
- Air dry in the shade
- Do not machine wash or machine dry
- Do not bleach or iron