

Commodore John Barry Elementary School 5900 Race Street Philadelphia, PA 19139

September 1, 2022

Dear Parents,

We will be making our school a phone-free space to improve teaching and learning using a system called Yondr. Yondr has been implemented in over 1,000 schools across 21 countries to facilitate an engaged learning environment.

We believe that phones have great utility. We have also found that learning and social behavior improve drastically when students are fully engaged with their teachers and classmates.

The Yondr Program utilizes a simple, secure pouch that stores a phone. Every student will secure their phone in a personally assigned Yondr pouch when they arrive at school. Students will maintain possession of their phones and will not use them until their pouches are opened at the end of the school day. Students are required to bring their Yondr pouch to and from school each day and are responsible for their pouch at all times.

Yondr recently surveyed over 900 school partners to measure the effects of creating phone-free educational environments. These schools achieved notable progress in multiple areas:

- 65% of schools saw an improvement in academic performance
- 74% of schools saw an improvement in student behavior
- 83% of schools saw an improvement in student engagement in the classroom

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school directly at 215 400-7640, or attend one of our upcoming meetings about the adoption of Yondr (Back to School Night-September 15, 2022 5pm-7pm).

If there is an emergency and you would like to get in contact with your child, please reach out to Main Office at 215 400-7640.

In an effort to best serve your child, we appreciate your full support in adoption of the Yondr Program at our school.

Thank you,

Principal Argro

STUDENT PHONE POLICY & GUIDELINES



Phones are not to be used during school. Every student is assigned a personal Yondr Pouch. While the Yondr Pouch is considered school property, it is each student's responsibility to bring their Pouch with them to school every day and keep it in good working condition.

DAILY PROCESS (Grades 4th-8th)

As students Arrive to School, they will:

- 1) Turn their phone off.
- 2) Place their phone inside their Pouch and secure it in front of school staff.
- 3) Store their Pouch in their backpack for the day.

At the end of the day, students will open their Pouch, remove their phone, close their Pouch and put it in their backpack. Students must bring their Pouch to school with them each day.

*Students arriving late or leaving early will pouch/unpouch their phones in the Main Office.

DAILY PROCESS (Grades K-3rd)

As students Arrive to Homeroom, they will:

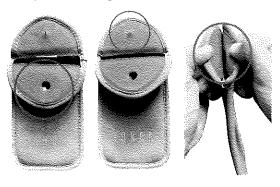
- 1) Turn their phone off.
- 2) Place their phone inside their Pouch and secure it in front of school staff.
- 3) Store their Pouch in their backpack for the day.

VIOLATIONS

Pouch Damage / Lost Pouch / Using Phone During School

- If a student damages their Pouch or is caught on their phone, Administration will collect the phone/Pouch and call home for a:
- The Parent has to come to the school to Pick Up their child's phone EVERY FRIDAY from 10 am- 2pm ONLY!
- AND \$20 fee for a replacement Pouch

Examples of damage:



- Ripped
- Cut
- e Torn
- Pen/pencil marks
- Bent/cut pin
- Signs of force to black button on flap

Forgotten Pouch

If a student forgets their Pouch, their phone will be collected and Admin will call home to remind the Parent of the policy. The phone will be returned to the student at dismissal.

If a student consistently forgets their Pouch, it is considered Lost.