

#### Ariel W. Holloway Elementary School

625 Stanton Road Mobile, AL 36617 251-221-1391

# Metra Turner- Principal Aneesha Watson-Assistant Principal

Dear Parents,

We will be making our school a phone-free space to improve teaching and learning using a system called <u>Yondr</u>. 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 in grades 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade 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. Pouches will be left here at school each day.

We received responses to our annual surveys from over 1,200 school partners, and after implementing the Yondr Education Program:

- 84% saw a change in student engagement
- 72% saw a positive change in student behavior
- 68% saw a positive change in academic performance
- 86% saw a positive impact in student safety and wellness

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school directly at 251-221-1391.

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

Thank you,

Prineipal

#### **How Yondr Works**



As students enter school, they place their phone in their assigned Yondr Pouch.



Students close and secure their Pouch, keeping it on them throughout the day.



When leaving school, students tap their Pouch on a Base to retrieve their phone.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### What if I want to reach my child during the school day?

We want our students to be engaged in their learning. If you need to contact your child during the school day, contact the main office at 251-221-1391.

## What if there is a school emergency?

In case of a school emergency, we direct our students to safety first, following our school emergency preparedness protocol. Messages will be posted on our social media accounts and class dojo. Robo calls will go when available.

## Will my student's phone be safe?

Students are in possession of their phone - in their Yondr pouch - for the entire school day. We will advise students to store the pouch in their backpacks where it is completely safe.

What if the Yondr pouch gets damaged or a student is caught on their phone? The Yondr pouch is property of Holloway Elementary School. If a student damages their Pouch or is caught on their phone, Administration will collect the phone/Pouch and call home for a Parent Pickup. Phone Pickup day is Monday of each week. NO EXCEPTIONS! They will be only given out on Monday. There is a \$30.00 damage fee for a replacement pouch is they are lost or damaged. Disciplinary action will be taken for habitual and continued violation of the policy.

Note: Damage consists of any signs that the physical integrity of the pouch has been compromised, whether intentional or unintentional, as determined by the school.

