

JEFF ROBERTS, PRINCIPAL
WENDY CROZIER, ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL
JASON BOYD, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
KAROLINA GAGE, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
AARON TANABE, ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Dear Parents and Students,

Beginning with the 2024-25 school year, the Seaside Secondary School (Grades 6th through 12th) will be a phone-free space to improve teaching and learning using a system called <u>Yondr</u>. Yondr has been implemented in over 2,000 schools across 16 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 power off their phone and secure it in a personally assigned Yondr pouch when they arrive at school. <u>Students will maintain possession of their phones and will not use them until their pouches are opened at the end of the school day.</u> Students are required to bring their Yondr pouch to and from school each day and are responsible for their pouch at all times. (<u>Yondr video Link</u>)

Schools that have implemented a phone-free environment using Yondr have experienced:

- an 84% change in student engagement
- a 72% positive change in student behavior
- a 68% positive change in academic performance

Of Yondr's most recent impact survey of over 370 of their school partners:

• 86% saw a positive impact on student safety and wellness

During the school year if you would like to contact your student or there is an emergency, please call the main office at Seaside Secondary School at 503-738-5586 and our front office staff will be happy to assist you quickly and efficiently.

To best serve your child, we appreciate your full support in the adoption of the Yondr Program at our school.

Thank you,

Jeff Roberts, Principal

Wendy Crozier, Associate Principal

Jason Boyd, Assistant Principal

Karolina Gage, Assistant Principal

# **How Yondr Works & Frequently Asked Questions**



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.

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

Our priority is for our students to engage in their learning. We know that some students receive more than 200 notifications on their devices a day while at school which creates a significant challenge for them to remain engaged. If you need to contact your child during the school day, contact the main office at 503-738-5586 or you may email your student at their school email address.

#### What if there is a school emergency?

Keeping our students safe, responding quickly, and providing accurate information are our top priorities. In case of a school emergency, we will direct our students to safety first following our school emergency preparedness protocol and will disseminate accurate information to all families using the communication tools at our disposal.

# Will my student's phone be safe?

Students will retain 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 devices will my student have access to for their academic needs? Students will still be able to bring personal laptops to complete their academic work. Seaside Secondary School is a 1 to 1 technology school meaning that high school students can check out a Chromebook for the year and each middle school student will have access to a Chromebook in each of their classes.

## Will students have their phones at Lunch?

Our building will remain "phone-free" for the academic day. The expectation is all students will be phone-free while in our building.

## What if I need to check my student out for an appointment?

Please call the main office at 503-738-5586 and let our office staff know when your student should be dismissed. Our staff will communicate that with your student and they will be able to check out in the main office and unlock their pouch as they exit.

#### Will students have access to their phones on buses to and from school and during extra-curricular activities?

Yes, students will not be required to lock their phones away until entering the building in the mornings. We also acknowledge that many students need to communicate with adults about events after school. Students will be able to unlock their phones at the end of the academic day.

## What if the Yondr pouch gets damaged or a student is caught on their phone?

The Yondr pouch is the property of the Seaside School District and will be checked out to each student just like a textbook or Chromebook and each student will be responsible for its condition. If a student damages their Pouch or is found on their phone, school staff will collect the phone/Pouch and contact home:

- **First Offense:** Staff will direct the student to bring their device to the office for student pick up at the end of the day. Parents/Guardians will be notified of the incident and students will be retaught the expectations.
- **Second Offense:** Staff will direct the student to bring their device to the office for the parent/guardian to pick up. Parents/Guardians will be notified of the incident and students and parents will be retaught the expectations.
- Third Offense: Staff will direct the student to bring their device to the office for parent/guardian to pick up. Parents/Guardians will be notified of the incident. Additionally, students will face further disciplinary action and be placed on a technology use plan.