



Sarcroxie High/Middle School

YONDR POUCH PROGRAM FAQs

What is a Yondr pouch?

The Yondr pouch is a secure bag that is used to store an individual's cell phone and/or Bluetooth devices. It is secured and unlocked with a special magnetic unlocking device.

Why has the District decided to use the Yondr system?

We want our students to be engaged in their learning and appropriate interpersonal social interaction throughout the day. Phones have become a distraction within the school day for students, and for teachers who must constantly monitor students for phone use during class and school activities. Our goal is to minimize distractions and maximize student engagement and learning and promote positive social interactions.

How will students receive a Yondr pouch?

In August of 2024, all students in grades 6-12 will be assigned a Yondr pouch to secure their phone and/or Bluetooth device(s). Students are responsible for the Yondr pouch at all times and for bringing the pouch to and from school each day and keeping them in good working condition. If students damage or lose their pouch the student will be charged \$30 for a new pouch.

How is the "beginning of the day" defined?

The beginning of the day will be when students enter the school building in the mornings. Phones must be put in the Yondr pouch before or upon entry. Students may be asked to do this in front of a staff member or present the locked Yondr pouch.

How is the "end of the day" defined?

The end of the day is defined by the last academic class period of the day and after students have been dismissed from campus.

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, please contact the main office, and we will relay a message to your student or get them to the office in order to make contact with you.

Will my child's phone be locked away?

Your child will put their phone in the Yondr pouch and keep it with them throughout the instructional day. When the final bell rings, students will unlock the pouch to access their phones when exiting the building.

Will my student's phone be safe?

Students are in possession of their phone - in their Yondr pouch - for the entire school day. The pouch itself is made of a soft fabric padding that provides protection to the phone while stored.

I have a tracker on my child's phone, does it have to be off during the day?

If the phone is in a pouch and not interfering with the instructional day, a student can either turn it off or put it on airplane mode.

Does this apply to smartwatches and other devices like air pods?

Students will be required to store their Bluetooth-capable devices in the pouch with their phone, including smart watches, bluetooth headphones/air pods, etc. It may be easier for students to leave any additional bluetooth capable devices at home.

Will my student still be able to listen to music or use headphones?

Students will be able to use headphones with cords to connect to their Chromebooks for instructional purposes. All Bluetooth devices should be left at home or stored in the Yondr pouch during the school day.

What if there is a school emergency?

In the case of a school emergency, we direct our students to safety first, following our District emergency procedures.

- In the event of an emergency lockdown, school staff will direct students following our previously established emergency procedures. Student cell phone use during this time has the potential to endanger the safety of the student using the phone and all students or staff within that classroom.
- Students and staff practice lockdown procedures by conducting drills throughout the school year. Families will be contacted by school staff as soon as possible if an emergency situation

occurs on campus. Yondr pouches will be unlocked as soon as it is determined that it is safe to do so.

What happens if a student's pouch is lost or damaged?

The District will provide all students with one initial pouch supplied by the building administrative team. If a student loses or damages a pouch, they will be charged a \$30.00 replacement fee. Students who forget their pouch will be required to turn in their cell phones along with any Bluetooth-capable devices to the main office. Pickup will require a guardian to retrieve the device(s) from the building principal(s). The Yondr pouch will be checked in each year with your students Chromebook, if it is lost or damaged students will be charged \$30 for a new one.

What happens if a student leaves campus with their device(s) still locked in the YONDR pouch?

Parents and/or guardians will be required to reach out to the building administrative team and make arrangements to have the pouch unlocked. Administrators will not be required to meet outside of normal school hours.

Will other schools in the district be using Yondr pouches?

At this time, Yondr pouches will only be used at Sarcoxie High/Middle School grades 6-12.