



# DPS Cell Phone Collection Procedures

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# DPS High Schools & Middle Schools

**High schools:** Paul Laurence Dunbar High School, David H. Ponitz CTC, Thurgood Marshall STEM High School, Belmont High School, Stivers School for the Arts, Meadowdale CTC, Mound Street Academy.

**Middle Schools:** Wogaman Middle School, Wright Brothers Middle School, Edwin Joel Brown Middle School, Belmont Middle School.



# DPS Cell Phone History

2021 - Thurgood Marshall STEM High School is the first to collect phones. This began around mid-school year in 2021.

August 2022 - all high schools implement Yondr pouches.

23-24 school year - high schools could choose to use Yondr pouches or collect phones. During this school year, Stivers, Ponitz, and Belmont used Yondr pouches. The others collect phones.

24-25 school year: ALL schools implement a cell phone collection system.



## Issues with Yondr

- Students are very innovative, and quickly discovered how to open the pouches.
- Magnetic yondr pouch opening devices are now widely sold and students can purchase them on Amazon.
- Despite the phone being locked up, the temptation to use the phone was strong.



# How the Collection System Works

- Students turn in their phones in the morning
  - Students also go through a metal detector and bags are searched, any discovered phones are collected at that time.
- Phones are put in a manilla envelope with the student's name on it.
- Envelopes are filed into bins based on grade level, or at some schools, last class of the day. Phones are stored in a locked closet all day.
- At the end of the day, phones are distributed back to students. Some schools choose to distribute them close to the end of the final class of the day, going from room to room with the phone bins. Other schools set up tables by grade level and students line up before exiting the building to get their phone back.



## Benefits of the Collection System

- Phones are out of sight, out of mind. There is less of a temptation to use them.
- More student engagement in classrooms, more student social interaction in the hallways and at lunch.
- Fewer behavioral issues and fights due to students staying off social media during the school day.



**Any Questions?**

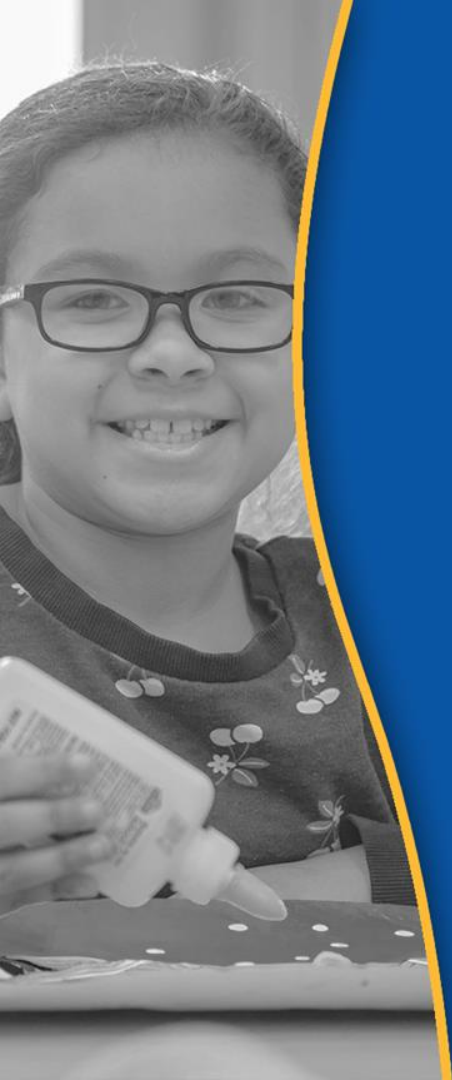
















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