

Powers School District #31  
PO Box 479  
Powers, Oregon 97466  
541-439-2291

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 uses a simple, secure pouch to store a phone. Every student will secure their phone/ watch/ ear buds 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 responsible for their own pouch.

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

Of our most recent impact survey of over 370 of our school partners:  
86% saw a positive impact on student safety and wellness

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school directly at 541-439-229.

If there is an emergency and you would like to contact your child, please reach out to 541-439-2291.

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

Thank you,

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Thank you for your continued support. This year, we are becoming a phone-free school during the day to help students stay focused, reduce distractions, and improve learning. This change also falls in step with the recent Governor's order that all districts in Oregon have a bell to bell cell phone ban for students at school.

We'll be using the **Yondr pouch system** to store phones, smartwatches, earbuds, and similar devices. Each student will place their device in a secure pouch when they arrive and will keep the pouch with them. Pouches will be unlocked at the end of the day.

Why this change? Schools using Yondr have seen:

- Better classroom focus and behavior
- Fewer social conflicts
- Improved student wellness

If you need to reach your child during the school day, please call the office at **541-439-2291**.

We appreciate your partnership in creating a safe, focused space for learning. If you have any questions, feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

Boyd Bjorkquist

Superintendent

## How Yondr Works

## 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 541-439-2291.

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.

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 the property of the Powers School District. If a student damages their Pouch or is caught on their phone, the Administration will collect the phone/Pouch and call home:

- The Parent will come to the school and Pick Up their child's phone
- AND/OR Consequences may include: Community Service / In-School Suspension / Detention

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 or Yondr staff.