

Dear BDCHS Families,

On behalf of the Brooks DeBartolo Collegiate High School Administrative Team, Board of Directors, and faculty, I am pleased to announce that BDCHS will be implementing a phone-free school environment through the Yondr program. This initiative is aimed at enhancing teaching, learning, and student engagement.

Yondr has been successfully adopted in over 2,000 schools across 16 countries to support focused, distraction-free learning environments.

While we recognize the value and utility of mobile phones, research and experience have shown that both learning outcomes and social behavior improve significantly when students are fully present and engaged with their teachers and peers.

How the Yondr Program Works:

- Each student will receive a personal Yondr pouch, which securely stores their phone during the school day.
- Upon arrival to homeroom, students will place their phones in their pouches and keep them in their possession throughout the day.
- Pouches will be unlocked at the end of the school day.
- Students are required to bring their Yondr pouch to and from school each day and are responsible for its care.

Impact of Yondr:


According to annual survey data collected from over 1,200 partner schools using the Yondr Education Program:

- 84% reported increased student engagement
- 72% observed improved student behavior
- 68% noted enhanced academic performance

Next Steps:

Students will be introduced to the Yondr program and its implementation at BDCHS during extended homeroom sessions on Monday and Tuesday. The use of Yondr pouches will begin immediately following this orientation.

After reviewing the Yondr Parent/Guardian Presentation and attached information, please complete the 25-26 Personal Electronics Policy Addendum by Wednesday, August 20th.

 Yondr Parent Presentation.pdf

[25-26 Personal Electronics Policy Addendum](#)

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. In an effort to best serve your child, we appreciate your full support in adoption of the Yondr Program at our school.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Hyde
Principal

How Yondr Works

Yondr Introduction Video

<https://vimeo.com/986781861?share=copy#t=0.231>



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 813-971-5600 or email their BDCHS student email address.

What if there is a school emergency?

In case of a school emergency, we direct our students to safety first, following our school comprehensive emergency management plan. Student cell phones have never been included in our safety plan. In accordance with Section (s.) [1006.07\(4\)](#), Florida Statutes (F.S.), all Florida public schools must implement a mobile panic alert system capable of connecting diverse emergency services technologies to ensure real-time coordination between multiple first responder agencies. BDCHS staff utilize CENTEGIX badges to alert emergency services and secure their classrooms. Faculty and staff also utilize their classroom phones and personal cell phones in emergency situations.

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 BDCHS. If a student damages their Pouch or is caught on their phone, Administration will collect the phone/Pouch and follow the Personal Electronics Discipline Matrix.

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.