Dr. Pamela McDonnough





1560 Kirk Road West Palm Beach, FL 33406 PH: 561.434.3300 FAX: 561.434.3303 PalmSpringsMS@palmbeachschools.org

Dear Palm Springs Middle School Parents,

We will be making our school a phone-free space to improve teaching and learning using a program called <u>Yondr</u>. Yondr has been implemented in thousands of schools across 27 countries to facilitate an engaged learning environment.

We believe that phones have great utility. We have also found that learning and student mental health improve drastically when students are fully present with their teachers and classmates.

The Yondr Program utilizes a simple, secure pouch that stores a phone. Every student will secure their phone 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 place their phones in their Yondr pouch each school each day and will be responsible for their pouch at all times.

In an annual survey of over 1,200 of schools that implemented the Yondr Program::

- 86% saw a positive impact in student safety and wellness
- 84% saw a positive change in student engagement
- 72% saw a positive change in student behavior
- 68% saw a positive change in academic performance

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school directly at 561-434-3301.

If there is an emergency and you would like to get in contact with your child, please reach out to your student's grade level office. For the 6th grade, you can contact Mrs. Wells at 561-434-3358. For the 7th grade, you can contact Mrs. Ramirez at 561-434-3330, and for the 8th grade you can contact Mr. Peragine at 561-434-3380..

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

Thank you,

Dr. McDonnough Principal Palm Springs Community Middle School

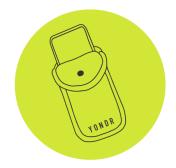


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How Yondr Works



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.



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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 appropriate grade level offices. For the 6th grade, you can contact Mrs. Wells at 561-434-3358. For the 7th grade, you can contact Mrs. Ramirez at 561-434-3330, and for the 8th grade you can contact Mr. Peragine at 561-434-3380.

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



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- 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 / Replacement Fee

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.



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