

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are writing to share an important update about a new cell phone policy that will go into effect this August for the 2024-2025 school year. This policy aims to address significant challenges caused by the disruption of cell phones in the classroom. Notifications, social media, games, and texts divert students' attention from their educational activities, hindering their ability to focus, engage in lessons, participate in discussions, and connect with their peers on a meaningful level.

Why This Policy is Needed

Our goal is to create a learning environment that promotes student engagement and academic success. Research shows that reducing cell phone usage in classrooms can significantly improve students' ability to concentrate and learn. For instance, studies have found that limiting cell phone usage can lead to better academic performance and increased social interactions among students. You can read more about the impact and information in the following articles:

- [Why Schools Should Ban Cell Phones in the Classroom—and Why Parents Have to Help](#)
- [4 educators detail why their schools are banning student cell phones](#)
- [Do phones belong in schools?](#)
- [US Schools Wrestle with Cellphones in Classrooms](#)
- [Impact of attachment to cell phones on classroom learning](#)

Alignment with Middle School Success

We are pleased to report that our middle school has already implemented a similar policy (YONDR Pouches) with great success. Students there have shown increased engagement in their classes and have built stronger connections with each other and their teachers. We believe that extending this policy to the high school will bring similar benefits and support our students' academic and social development.

The Importance of Partnership

For this policy to be effective, we need your partnership and support. We understand that cell phones are an integral part of our daily lives, but we also see the value in creating boundaries that prioritize education and personal connections during school hours. We ask for your cooperation in reinforcing this policy at home and helping your child understand the importance of focusing on their education while at school.

Looking Forward

We are confident that this new cell phone policy will help us create a more focused and engaging learning environment for all students. By working together as a community, we can support our students in reaching their full potential.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Doug Wilson
Principal
Avondale High School