

Joseph E. Soehl Middle School
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Principal

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Dear Parents and Guardians

We are thrilled to announce that we will be transforming our school into a phone-free environment to enhance the teaching and learning experience, employing the innovative Yondr system. Yondr has successfully been adopted by more than 1,000 schools in 21 different countries, fostering a highly engaged learning atmosphere.

Mark your calendars, as we look forward to implementing this exciting change on Thursday, October 5, 2023, marking the official launch of our phone-free space.

We believe that phones have great utility. We have also found that learning and social behavior may improve drastically when students are fully engaged 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. Students will maintain possession of their phones and will not use them until their pouches are opened at the end of the school day.

Yondr recently surveyed over 900 school partners to measure the effects of creating phone-free educational environments. These schools achieved notable progress in multiple areas:

- 65% of schools saw an improvement in academic performance
- 74% of schools saw an improvement in student behavior
- 83% of schools saw an improvement in student engagement in the classroom

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school directly at 908-486-0550.

If there is an emergency and you would like to get in contact with your child, please reach out to main office at (908) 486-0550.

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

Thank you,
Gwendolyn L. Long
Principal