



CELL PHONE POLICY AND YONDR BAGS 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR

CVCA places a high value on students' physical, emotional, and spiritual well-being. Longitudinal research consistently demonstrates a strong correlation between increased cell phone/social media usage, higher levels of depression and anxiety, and lower outcomes in school. We want all CVCA students to be seen and loved and to develop a healthy identity in Christ, while also growing spiritually, academically, and socially. During the school day, CVCA desires to be an environment where we are good stewards of the time we have with students and where they are most able to remain academically, spiritually, and socially engaged.

In January of 2026, the State of Ohio required all public schools to adopt a policy eliminating cell phone use throughout the school day. Due to the compelling research that led to this legislation, many private schools have followed suit. Additionally, for the past several years, CVCA has researched best practices of Christian schools across the country and found that teachers and administrators have reported overwhelmingly positive social and academic outcomes as a result of moving to a phone-free school environment.

For these reasons, starting in the 2026-2027 school year, students will not be permitted to use their cell phones, smartwatches, or AirPods on campus from 7:50 a.m. to 2:50 p.m. Every student will be assigned a personalized Yondr bag with a CVCA photo ID card. Similar to their Chromebooks, the Yondr bags are the property of CVCA, and students are responsible for bringing them to school daily and for paying for lost or damaged bags.

CVCA chose Yondr because, for over a decade, they have helped schools across all 50 states and more than 35 countries build healthier, more engaging school cultures. Their program, combined with hands-on guidance and dedicated support, has led to powerful results:

- 86% reported improved safety and student wellness
- 68% experienced academic gain
- 84% saw increased engagement in class
- 44% reduced behavioral referrals

Staying Connected

With student safety as our top priority, we will follow our standard safety protocols in the event of an emergency. If you need to reach your child during the school day, please contact our Main Office at 330-929-0575. For non-urgent issues, you can reach your student by email or using our new communication platform, ParentSquare, and the student Chromebook app, StudentSquare. *NOTE: If your student has medical documentation that may qualify him/her for a Velcro medical pouch, please use [this form](#) to submit your request to our CVCA Health Clinic for approval.*

How the Program Works

Each student will be assigned a Yondr bag – a secure, lockable case for storing personal devices. Students are responsible for bringing their bag to and from school each day and keeping it in good condition. As we have learned from other best-practice schools, this process is quick and simple, and it will be supervised by first-period teachers as part of our daily routine.

- **At the Start of First Period:** Students power off their phones, AirPods, and smartwatches (or switch to airplane mode), place all devices in the Yondr bag, and lock it.
- **During the Day:** Students keep the locked bag in their backpacks or lockers.
- **At Dismissal:** Students unlock their bags at designated stations to retrieve their devices.

Students who do not comply with this policy will be referred to the Middle School or High School Principal Offices. For more detailed information about consequences, please read the updated cell phone policy in the CVCA Student/Parent Handbook available through ParentSquare in early August.

We know that change takes partnership, and we are here to support a smooth transition for your family. We desire to create a focused, present, and Christ-centered environment throughout the school day. Thank you for your continued support as we work together to *Educate and Cultivate Servants for Christ*.