DIGITAL ARTS & CINEMA TECHNOLOGY
HIGH SCHOOL

NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Mikayla Strycharz, Principal IA
284 Baltic Street, Brooklyn NY 11201
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Cell Phone/Internet-Enabled Device Policy

To create an environment conducive to learning by minimizing distractions caused by cell phones and other personal internet-enabled electronic devices, effective August 1, 2025, all New York State schools are required to adopt a policy that prohibits the use of personal internet-enabled devices during the school day. An "internet-enabled electronic device" is defined as an electronic device capable of connecting to the internet and enabling the user to access content on the internet. Examples of such devices include cell phones, smartphones, smartwatches, laptops, tablets, iPads, and portable music and entertainment systems.

As such, we have decided to implement the Yondr Pouch system. Each student will be assigned a Yondr pouch that they are responsible to bring to school everyday. Below is how Yondr works.



Entry begins at 8:05 am at the main entrance on Baltic Street. School personnel will ask students to show their Yondr Pouch at entry and lock their cell phone and/or internet enabled devices inside. At the end of the school day, students will be able to unlock their Yondr Pouches at designated dismissal locations.

Students arriving late or leaving early will secure their phones/devices in the Main Office and receive the appropriate pass to class.

If you need to contact your child during the school day, contact the main office at (718) 694-9741 or call our Parent Coordinator, Cheryl Ann Fox, at (917) 355-2584.

Below are some answers to frequently asked questions.

<u>Frequently Asked Questions</u>

<u>School Emergency.</u>
In case of emergency or exigent circumstances, parents or guardians can call Parent Coordinator, Ms. Cheryl Ann Fox, at (917) 355-2584 to reach their child. The school will also continue to use the NYCDOE messaging system. Please therefore make sure your NYCSA account is up to date.

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(https://www.schoolsaccount.nyc/). In addition to dismissal locations, all offices, including counselors, will have the mechanism to unlock phones/devices from pouches.

Will my student's phone/devices be safe?
Students are in possession of their phones/devices - in their Yondr pouch - for the entire school day. We advise students to store the pouch in their backpacks or lockers.

Forgotten/Lost Pouch.
If a student forgets their Pouch, their phone/devices will be collected at entry. For students arriving late, phones/devices must be brought to the Dean's Office (Room 318) in order to receive a pass to class. Phones/devices will be returned to the student at dismissal. There will be a $5.00 fee for replacement pouches.

Out Lunch.
Should your child need to access a phone/device while off school grounds, school personnel will be at the Main Entrance to assist when students exit and re-enter the building. Please review our Out Lunch Policy.

Exceptions.
Parents/guardians must contact the school if a student requires an exception for reasons such as: medical monitoring/treatments (for example to monitor blood sugar or other similar circumstances), if student is a caregiver, for approved language purposes (such as translation or interpretation services if no other means are available), or where otherwise required by law. More information can be found here: schools.nyc.gov/DevicePolicy

Discipline.
Students who use electronic devices in violation of the NYCPS Discipline Code, our school's policy, Chancellor's Regulation A-413, and/or the NYCPS Internet Acceptable Use and Safety Policy ("IAUSP") will be subject to progressive discipline. Please review our school's Discipline Policy for Electronic Device Violations.