Subject: We're Going Distraction-Free with Yondr

Dear Parents and Guardians,

At Collingswood High School, we're committed to creating a learning environment where every student can thrive—academically, socially, and emotionally. Beginning in September, we will launch the Yondr Distraction-Free Schools Program—a proven, bell-to-bell approach that supports student focus, well-being, and connection by removing mobile phone distractions during the school day.

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

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

How the Program Works
Each student will be assigned a Yondr pouch—a secure, lockable case for storing personal devices. Students are responsible for bringing their pouch to and from school each day and keeping it in good condition.

- **Upon arrival:** Students power off their phone, AirPods, and smartwatch (or switch to airplane mode), place all devices in the pouch, and lock it during their first period class.
- **During the day:** Students keep the locked pouch in their backpack or locker.
- **At dismissal:** Students unlock pouches at designated stations to retrieve their devices.

This process is quick, simple, and will be supervised by staff as part of our daily routine.

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 856-962-5701.

We know that change takes partnership—and we're here to support a smooth transition for your family.To walk through the program and answer your questions, we'll be hosting a parent information session on Tuesday August 19th in the HS Cafe from 5:30-6:30. Please note this will be an extension of our parent session for Freshman and New Students that runs from 5-5:30. Additionally, rising 10th-12th graders are invited to join us in the High School Cafeteria on Monday August 18th at 12 noon.

Thank you for your continued support as we work together to create a focused, present, and positive school environment for every student.

Yours sincerely,

Doug Newman, CHS Principal
Dan Whalen, CHS Assistant Principal
Colleen Harte, CHS Assistant Principal/Athletic Director
Kim Hallenbeck, CHS Director of Counseling