

Great Oaks High School and Career Center Phone Policy – 2025 School Year

In alignment with updated state guidelines and our commitment to creating a focused and career-ready learning environment, Great Oaks will be implementing a **No Phone Policy** for all students starting this school year. “Electronic communication devices must not be used during instructional time unless permitted by a teacher for educational purposes” — *House File 2611, Iowa Code Section 279.77*

Policy Details:

- Upon arrival each day, students will **check in with the security guard at the front office** and **place their phones in a Yonder Phone Pouch that will be magnetized shut** and given back to the student.
- Phone pouches will be unlocked and **returned to students at dismissal**.
- Students are only in school for **three hours each day**, and this policy is designed to help eliminate distractions and support their academic success during this focused time. This phone policy also applies to students who are enrolled in the CTE programs which run all day. Students can have their phones during their CTE lunch break.

In Case of Emergencies or Important Calls:

We understand that communication is important. Our front office **secretary is available during school hours** to answer calls and relay urgent messages to students if needed. Families can call the main office at any time to reach their student in case of an emergency. **The school phone number is 515-207-5026.**

Why This Matters:

Great Oaks is a Career Center. We are preparing students for **real-world workplace expectations**, where phone use is often restricted or not allowed during work hours. Developing strong habits—like staying present, focused, and responsible—will serve our students well as they transition into professional environments.

We appreciate the support of our students and families as we implement this policy in the best interest of student success. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact our front office.

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