

PHONE FREE SCHOOLS

*How Parents & Communities
Can Advocate For Change*

DEBUNK THE EXCUSES

Parents are often the main reason school districts do not adopt screen-free policies because they want to reach and track their children during the school day. Parents reason phones are necessary in case of an emergency or school shooting, but safety experts say this puts a child at more risk due to the phone distraction. The real risks lie within the phone, the very thing parents insist they have on them at all times.

KNOW THE RESEARCH

A Common Sense Media survey found that 97% of students (11-17) use their phones during the school day, checking them every 3-4 minutes, and 35% of students admit to using their phones to cheat. Not only does academic performance increase in phone-free schools, but bullying and psychological counselor visits decrease. For more information and research studies visit: awayfortheday.org

SHARE THE RESEARCH & START A PETITION

Utilize the PTA/PTO, athletic or band booster clubs, community forums, and social media to share the research and advocate for school policy change. Gather support from teachers and counselors who see the problem firsthand.

GO TO THE PRINCIPAL, SUPERINTENDENT, & SCHOOL BOARD

Take the research, proposed policies, strategy for implementation, student and parent testimonies, and petition to the school administration. Continue working your way up to the top policymakers on the school board.

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