

Resolutions #12

Councilors Bixby, Grossman, Kalis, Kritzman, Micley, and Oliver support the following resolution:

Whereas Day Middle School this year has had a pilot of phone pouches that keep individual students phones unusable during the school day;

Whereas Day’s pilot was considered a “game changer” and very successful by the school’s principal and educators;

Whereas the rising grades of middle schoolers were in early elementary school during the COVID school closures and their behavior and technology use was impacted by those circumstances;

And whereas ARPA funds were designed to respond to the impacts of COVID-19 pandemic;

We request that \$50,000 of ARPA or other funding be allocated to purchase these pouches for Newton’s middle schools to enable these schools to build off the success of Day’s pilot and expand the work to ensure that personal phones do not disrupt the school day at all our middle schools.