



# PORTOLA HIGH SCHOOL

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## Forgotten Items Policy Rationale

Hello Bulldogs,

Did you know we actually have a policy on dropping off forgotten items? Unfortunately, we do not have a designated area in or outside of the office to accept, and hold on to, forgotten items. This may seem unreasonable however to put into perspective we are asked on a daily basis to accept the following items:

- Lunches, homework, projects
- Sports items such as sports bags, cleats, water bottles, equipment
- Home items such as keys, wallets, money
- Medical items such as glasses, contacts
- Musical instruments
- Cameras, etc...

One can imagine how these items can pile up. Furthermore, once the items are dropped off, calls come into the office constantly asking if the item(s) has been picked up. On both ends of this are the items that never get picked up and the items that get taken by someone else. This whole process can be a waste of valuable time of an already extremely busy clerical staff.

Instead we would encourage families to use this incident of a forgotten item as a life lesson in responsibility. Please note this article on "[Stop Doing These 8 Things for Your Teen This Year.](#)" This is an article from the publication For Every Mom that addresses some of the things we do as parents that might be counterproductive to raising competent adults. Delivering forgotten items is one of the 8 things mentioned. Despite the consequence this may bring about, your child will learn that life will still go on. Additionally, in the future, your child will be much more likely to remember to bring everything they need each day.

Maybe you agree with the concept BUT you still feel compelled to bail your child out. You do have the option of meeting them at lunch time. You can communicate with them via text message and meet them at the one of the drop off curbs to give them the item. We will not call your child out of class as this interrupts valuable educational time and would cause a disruption not only for your child, but for the teacher and the rest of the learners as well.

We realize that this may seem a bit unreasonable upon first encountering this practice, but we appreciate your cooperation and understanding.

Respectfully,

Portola High School Administration