

**Sec. 1. EMPLOYEE SEARCHES**

TPHS reserves the right to conduct searches to monitor compliance with rules concerning safety of employees, security of TPHS and individual property, drugs and alcohol, and possession of other prohibited items.

“Prohibited items” include illegal drugs, alcoholic beverages, prescription drugs or medications not used or possessed in compliance with a current valid prescription, weapons, any items of an obscene, harassing, demeaning, or violent nature, and any property in the possession or control of an employee who does not have authorization from the owner of such property to possess or control the property.

“Control” means knowing where a particular item is, having placed an item where it is currently located, or having any influence over its continued placement.

In addition to TPHS premises, TPHS may search employees, their work areas, lockers, personal vehicles if driven or parked on TPHS property, and other personal items such as bags, purses, briefcases, backpacks, lunch boxes, and any and all other containers.

**Sec. 2. NO EXPECTATION OF PRIVACY**

There is no general or specific expectation of privacy in the TPHS workplace, either on TPHS property or while on duty. In general, employees should assume that what they do while on duty or on TPHS property is not private. All employees and all of the areas listed above are subject to search at any time. The areas in question may be searched at any time, with or without the employee being present. As a general rule, with the exception of items relating to personal hygiene or health, no employee should ever bring anything to work or store anything at work that he or she would not be prepared to show and possibly turn over to TPHS officials and/or law enforcement authorities.

**Sec. 3. LOCKERS AND OTHER STORAGE AREAS**

If an employee uses a locker or other storage area at work, including a locking desk drawer or locking cabinet, TPHS will either furnish the lock and keep a copy of the key or combination, or else allow the employee to furnish a personal lock. If the employee uses a personal lock, he or she must provide a copy of the key or combination to TPHS.

**Sec. 4. APPLICABILITY OF POLICY**

All TPHS employees are subject to this policy. However, any given search may be restricted to one or more specific individuals, depending upon the situation. Searches may be done on a random basis, or based upon reasonable suspicion. “Reasonable suspicion” means circumstances

**TRIUMPH PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS (TPHS) BOARD POLICY  
MANUAL**

**POLICY GROUP 4 – PERSONNEL  
EMPLOYEE SEARCHES**

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suggesting to a reasonable person that there is a possibility that one or more individuals may be in possession of a prohibited item, as defined above.

Any search under this policy will be done in a manner protecting employee privacy, confidentiality, and personal dignity to the greatest extent possible. TPHS will respond severely to any unauthorized release of information concerning individual employees.

No employee will ever be physically forced to submit to a search. However, an employee who refuses to submit to a search request by TPHS will face disciplinary action, up to and possibly including immediate termination of employment.

**Sec. 5. VIDEO SURVEILLANCE**

In order to promote the safety of TPHS employees, students, and visitors, as well as the security of its facilities, TPHS may conduct video surveillance of any portion of its premises at any time. The only areas excepted from video surveillance are private areas of restrooms, showers, and dressing rooms. All video cameras will be positioned in appropriate places in and around TPHS buildings and used to promote the safety and security of people and property.