

5021 Student Searches

Teachwell administrators are authorized to make searches of students, students' personal property, and vehicles, as well as Teachwell-owned provided property under the conditions outlined below.

Student and Student Property Searches. A student and/or a student's personal property (e.g., purse, backpack, book bag, cell phone, electronic devices, etc.) may be searched without prior consent when a Teachwell administrator has reasonable suspicion to believe that the student is in possession of items that are unauthorized, illegal, or contraband; or that the search will produce evidence of the violation of a Teachwell rule; or potential harm to self or others.

When practicable, searches of a student's garments while being worn (such as jackets, socks, pockets, etc.) will be conducted in private. Teachwell will attempt to ensure the employee who conducts the search be the same sex as the student. A more intrusive search of the student's person is permissible in emergency situations when the health and safety of students, employees, or visitors on the Teachwell premises are threatened. Administrative personnel may confiscate any items in student possession that are unauthorized, illegal, represent potential harm to self or others, or are found to be in violation of a Teachwell rule.

Electronic Devices. Teachwell staff may also take possession of a student's personal cell phone or other personal electronic device brought onto Teachwell property when the student is observed using the device in a manner contrary to Teachwell rules. The electronic device will be delivered to administration. An administrator may take possession and conduct a search of a student's device brought onto Teachwell property if during the course of an investigation of a student discipline violation, the administration has reasonable suspicion that the electronic device may produce evidence related to the discipline violation or there is reasonable suspicion of a safety threat to self or others. In an emergency, an administrator may take possession of and hold the device without the student's knowledge. If the student is arrested, the electronic device shall be turned over to law enforcement.

Searches of Teachwell Property. Teachwell property may be temporarily assigned to individual students but remains the property of Teachwell at all times. Students have no expectation of privacy or confidentiality when using Teachwell property. Teachwell property may be searched at any time.

Students are not to share Teachwell property unless assigned by the administration (e.g., students should not share private locker combinations with other students).

Vehicle Searches. Students are permitted to park on Teachwell premises as a matter of privilege, not a right. Teachwell may conduct routine patrols of the student parking lots and inspections of the exterior of vehicles. The interior of a student's vehicle on the Teachwell premises may be searched by a Teachwell administrator if the administration has reasonable suspicion to believe items that are unauthorized, illegal, or contraband are contained inside.

Adopted on: 8/15/2023

Revised on:

Reviewed on: