

RESTRAINT, ISOLATION AND OTHER USES OF REASONABLE FORCE

It is the policy of the Board of Directors that the District maintains a safe learning environment while treating all students with dignity and respect. All students in the District, including those who have an individualized education program (IEP) or plan developed under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, will remain free from unreasonable restraint, restraint devices, isolation and other uses of physical force. Under no circumstances will these techniques be used as a form of discipline or punishment.

This policy is intended to address District students. It is not intended to prevent or limit the use of restraint or other reasonable force as necessary with adults or other youth from outside the district as allowed by law.

Restraint and other uses of physical force, as defined in this the procedure accompanying this policy, may be used when necessary to prevent or minimize imminent bodily injury to self or others. Restraint and other uses of physical force may be used to protect district property if de-escalation interventions have failed or are inappropriate.

Use of restraint, isolation, and other forms of reasonable force may be used on any student when reasonably necessary to control spontaneous behavior that poses an "imminent likelihood of serious harm" as defined by RCW 70.96B.010 and explained in the procedure accompanying this policy. Serious harm includes physical harm to self, another, or district property. Staff will closely monitor such actions to prevent harm to the student and will use the minimum amount of restraint and isolation appropriate to protect the safety of students and staff. The restraint, isolation, and other forms of reasonable force will be discontinued when the likelihood of serious harm has dissipated.

The Superintendent or a designee will develop procedures to implement this policy, including review, reporting and parent/guardian notification of incidents involving restraint or isolation as required by law. Additionally, the Superintendent will annually report to the Board on incidents involving the use of force.



Cross References:

Education of Students with Disabilities under Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973 Policy 2162
Special Education and Related Services for Eligible Students Policy 2161

Legal References:

Use of Force—When lawfulRCW 9A.16.020
Use of Force on Children—Policy—Actions presumed unreasonable.....RCW 9A.15.100
Corporal Punishment Prohibited—Adoption of Policy RCW 28A.150.300
Discipline—Conditions and limitations WAC 292-400-235
Use of restraint or isolation—requirement for procedures to notify parent or guardian
..... RCW 28A.155.210
Restraint of students with individualized education programs or plans developed under Section 504
of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973—Procedures—Definitions (as amended by SHB 1240).....
..... RCW 28A.600.485
Definitions.....RCW 70.96B.010

Management Resources:

Use of Force, Isolation and Restraint of Students with IEPs and 504 Plans
..... *Policy & Legal News*, December 2013, July 2013, December 2008; *Policy Alert* July 2015

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