

USE OF ISOLATION, RESTRAINT, RESTRAINT DEVICES AND REASONABLE FORCE

It is the policy of the Woodland Board of Directors that the District maintains a safe learning environment while treating all students with dignity and respect. All students in the District shall remain free from the unreasonable use of force.

District staff may use reasonable force, isolation or restraint to maintain order, and/or to prevent a student from harming himself/herself and/or other people and/or property,

Physical force is reasonable when needed to prevent or minimize imminent bodily injury or substantial or great bodily harm to self or others. If de-escalation interventions have failed or are inappropriate, reasonable physical force may be used to protect district property.

Use of al restraint device or chemical spray is reasonable only under the following conditions and only when used by authorized and trained district staff after de-escalation interventions have failed or are inappropriate:

- a) if the student's behavior poses a threat of imminent bodily injury or substantial or great harm to self or others; or
- b) to prevent significant property damage.

Physical force, mechanical restraints, chemical spray or less than lethal devices will not be used as a form of discipline or punishment.

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

Parents or guardians of students with whom the school is considering the use of aversive interventions under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act [IDEA] and students whose Section 504 plan will contain the use of restraint or isolation will be provided a copy of the district's use of isolation, restraint, restraint devices and reasonable force policy.

The Superintendent will report to the Board following the use of force. The Superintendent or a designee will develop procedures to implement this policy.

Legal References: RCW 28A.150.300
 9A.16.020
 9A.16.100

Corporal Punishment Prohibited
Use of Force — When lawful
Use of Force on Children — Policy —
 Actions presumed unreasonable

WAC 392-400-235
392-172A

Discipline — Conditions and limitations
Rules for the Provision of Special Education

Management Resources:

Policy News, December 2008 Use of Reasonable Force Policy

