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## 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 all 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.

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**Cross References:** ~~Policy 2161~~ ~~Special Education and Related Services for Eligible Students~~  
~~Policy 2162~~ ~~Education of Students With Disabilities Under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973~~  
~~Policy 3247~~ ~~Isolation and Restaint of Students with IEPs and Section 504 Plans~~

**Legal References:** ~~RCW 28A.150.300~~ ~~Corporal Punishment Prohibited~~  
~~RCW 9A.16.020~~ ~~Use of Force — When lawful~~

RCW 9A.16.100 Use of Force on Children — Policy —  
Actions presumed unreasonable

RCW 28A.150.300 Corporal Punishment Prohibited

WAC Chapter 392-400-235 Discipline — Conditions and  
limitations

392-172A Rules for the Provision of Special Education

Management Resources:

*Policy and Legal News, December 2013* WSSDA issues new policy specific to  
isolation and restraint of students  
with IEPs and Section 504 plans

*Policy and Legal News, July 2013* Use of Reasonable Force Policy retitled,  
revised to include new reporting  
requirement pursuant to ESSB 1688

*Policy News, December 2008 Use of Reasonable Force Policy*

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