## **Restraint, Isolation and Other Uses of Reasonable Force**

## **USE OF REASONABLE FORCE**

It is the policy of the Woodland Board of Directors that the <u>district</u> maintains a safe learning environment while treating all students with dignity and respect. All students in the <u>district</u>, <u>including those who have an individualized education program (IEP) or plan developed under</u> 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 punishmentDistrict 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 corrective action.

This policy is intended to address <u>district</u> students. <u>It is</u> <u>enrolled in the District and not</u> intended to prevent or limit the use of <u>restraint or other</u> reasonable force <del>or restraint</del> as necessary with <del>other</del> adults or <u>other</u> youth from outside the <u>districtschool</u> as allowed by law.\_

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 Chapter 392-172A WAC 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:	Board Policy 2161	Special Education and Related Services for Eligible Students
	Board Policy 2162	Education of Students With Disabilities Under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
Legal References:	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 - Adoption of policy
	RCW 28A.155.210	Use of restraint or isolation — Requirement for procedures to notify parent or guardian.
	RCW 28A.600.485	Restraint of students with individualized education programs or plans developed under section 504 of the rehabilitation act of 1973—Procedures—Summary of incidents of isolation or restraint— Publishing to web site. [as amended by SHB 1240]
	RCW 70.96B.010	Definitions
	Chapter 392-172A WAC	Rules for the provision of special education
	WAC 392-400-235	Discipline — Conditions and limitations
Management Resources: 2016 - March Issue 2015 - July Policy A		Alert

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