

Restraint, Isolation and Other Uses of Reasonable Force

ESD 112 will maintain safe learning environments while treating all students with dignity and respect. All students served by ESD 112 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.

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.

This policy is intended to address students served by ESD 112. It is not intended to prevent or limit the use of restraint or other reasonable force as necessary with adults or other youth from school districts or others outside the ESD as allowed by law.

The Superintendent will develop procedures to implement this policy, including review, reporting and parent/guardian notification of incidents involving restraint or isolation as required by law.

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 - Provision of special education services
WAC 392-400-235 Discipline — Conditions and limitations

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