

## **Students**

### **Use of Isolated Time Out and Physical Restraint**

The Board of Education bears the responsibility of establishing procedures to protect the safety, health, and welfare of students, staff and property of the District and maintaining a safe and orderly learning environment. To meet this responsibility, it may be necessary, at times, to physically restrain or physically remove a student to an alternative setting when the student's conduct adversely affects the well-being of the schools. This Policy applies to all students.

Use of isolated time out is prohibited unless it is authorized in writing by the Executive Director of Special Education, and the use of isolated time out is identified in an Individualized Education Plan as an appropriate method to deescalate a specific student. This prohibition does not extend to ISBE approved, third party educational or residential facilities with which the District contracts to provide educational programming to appropriately identified District students. "Isolated time out" means the confinement of a student in a time-out room or some other enclosure, whether within or outside the classroom, from which the student's egress is restricted.

Use of physical restraint is authorized when necessary to preserve the safety of students, staff or others and where use of restraint is not known to be medically contraindicated. The use of physical restraint by any staff member shall comply with the Illinois State Board of Education rules, Section 1.285, "Requirements for the Use of Isolated Time Out and Physical Restraint". The Superintendent or designee shall ensure a summary of these rules is distributed to all staff. Only staff members who have appropriately trained in the safe application of physical restraint may employ such a behavior management technique with a student.

Physical restraint shall not be used, however, as a means of punishment when disciplining a student for misconduct, including but not limited to, use of profanity or other verbal displays of disrespect unless a verbal threat constitutes a physical danger which the student demonstrates s/he is capable of or intends to carry out. "Physical restraint" means holding a student or otherwise restricting his or her movements. "Restraint" does not include momentary periods of physical restriction by direct person-to-person contact, without the aid of material or mechanical devices, accomplished with limited force and designed to: (1) prevent a student from completing an act that would result in potential physical harm to himself, herself, or another or damage to property; or (2) remove a disruptive student who is unwilling to leave the area voluntarily.

The following shall also apply:

1. The ISBE rules are adopted as the District's written procedure to be followed by staff for the use of physical restraint§ 1.280(c)(2).

2. The Building Principal, or for special education students, the Special Education Supervisor assigned to the school building, is the school official who will be informed of incidents and maintain the documentation required pursuant to Section 1.285 when isolated time out or physical restraint is used. § 1.280(c)(3).
3. The Building Principal or Special Education Supervisor shall investigate and evaluate any incident that results in an injury that the affected student (or the responsible parent or guardian), staff member, or other individual identifies as serious. § 1.280(c)(4).
4. The Building Principal or Special Education Supervisor shall compile a description of alternative strategies that will be implemented when determined advisable pursuant to Section 1.285(f)(4). § 1.280(c)(5).
5. The Superintendent or designee shall compile an annual review of the use of physical restraint. The Building Principal and Special Education Supervisors shall report the following information to the Superintendent or designee in order to facilitate the report's compilation: § 1.280(c)(6).
  - a. The number of incidents involving the use of these interventions;
  - b. The location and duration of each incident;
  - c. Identification of the staff members who were involved;
  - d. Any injuries or property damage that occurred; and
  - e. The timeliness of parental notification and administrative review.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-20.31.  
105 ILCS 5/14-8.05  
23 Ill. Admin. Code §§ 1.280 and 1.285.

Adopted: December 7, 2004

Revised: June 11, 2013