Isolation and Restraint of Students with IEPs and Section 504 Plans

It is the policy of the Board of Directors that the district maintains a safe learning environment while treating all students with dignity and respect. All students in the district, including those with an Individualized Education Program (IEP), an Aversive Intervention Plan (AIP) or a plan developed under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504 plan) will remain free from the unreasonable use of force. Isolation and restraint of these students will generally be avoided and will not be used as a form of discipline or punishment. The district recognizes, however, that isolation and restraint are necessary at times to preserve the safety of students and school staff. The district therefore authorizes these actions under limited circumstances. This policy and its accompanying procedure set forth the statutory definitions and authorized use of isolation, restraint and restraint devices as well as incident review procedures and requirements for reporting and parent/guardian notification.

The district will provide parents or guardians of students with an IEP or Section 504 plan a copy of the district’s Isolation and Restraint policy when the IEP or Section 504 plan is created and will include parent/guardian notification procedures in the student’s IEP.

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

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.155.210 Special Education notification procedures  
RCW 28A.600.485 Restraint of students with individualized education programs or plans developed under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.  
RCW 28A.150.300 Corporal Punishment Prohibited  
Chapter 392-172A WAC Rules for the Provision of Special Education  
Chapter 392-400-235 Discipline — Conditions and limitations

Management Resources:
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