

Descriptor Term: SECLUSION AND RESTRAINT

Descriptor Code: JLJ

Rescinds: N/A

Board Approved: 12/9/2019

Previously Approved: N/A

The Gulfport School District supports a positive approach to behavior that uses proactive strategies to create a safe school climate. It is recognized that situations may arise wherein students display physically violent behavior and/or are deemed to be a danger to themselves or others. In such cases restraint and/or seclusion may be appropriate. Seclusion and restraint shall not be used as a punitive measure.

Absent a clear and present danger to health or safety, only school personnel trained in the use of restraint and seclusion shall be used to administer restraint and/or seclusion including to observe and monitor students subject to restraint and/or seclusion. Physical restraint is considered to be an emergency response after all other verbal and non-verbal de-escalation measures have failed in effectiveness. Proper documentation must be completed with each incidence of restraint or seclusion, including notification to parents. Parents should be notified verbally or in writing on the day of the restraint or seclusion. Questions regarding the use of restraint and seclusion may be directed to the Gulfport School District, Director of Special Services.