

**Tumwater School District
Board Policy**

**RESTRAINT, ISOLATION AND OTHER USES OF
REASONABLE FORCE**

It is the policy of the Tumwater School District 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 who have an Individualized Education Program (IEP), or a plan developed under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504 Plan) will remain free from unreasonable restraint, restraint devices, isolation, and other use of physical force. Under no circumstances will these techniques be used as a form of discipline or punishment.

This policy is intended to address district students. It is not intended to prevent or limit the use of restraint or other reasonable force as necessary with adults or other youth from outside the district 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 71.05.20 and Chapter 393-172A 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 students 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:

2161 – Special Education and Related Service for Eligible Students

2162 – Education of Students With Disabilities Under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

Legal References: WAC 392-400-235
WAC 392-172A

Discipline—Conditions and limitations.
Rules for the Provision of Special Education

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 28A.155.210	Use of restraint or isolation-Requirement for procedures to notify parent or guardian.
RCW 28A.150.300	Corporal punishment prohibited-Adoption of policy.
RCW 9A.16.100	Use of Force on Children-Policy-Actions presumed unreasonable.
RCW 9A.16.020	Use of Force-When lawful.
RCW 70.96B.010	Definitions

ADOPTED: **August 28, 2014**

REVISED: **April 11, 2019; October 26, 2023**