
Use of Reasonable Force

It is the policy of the Grandview Board of Directors that the district maintains a safe learning environment while treating all students with dignity and respect. All students in the district will remain free from the unreasonable use of force.

District staff may use reasonable force to maintain order or to prevent a student from harming him/herself other students and school staff or property.

Physical force is reasonable when needed to prevent or minimize imminent bodily injury or substantial or great bodily harm to self or others. If de-escalation interventions have failed or are inappropriate, reasonable physical force may be used to protect district property.

Use of a restraint device or chemical spray is reasonable only under the following conditions and only when used by authorized and trained district staff after de-escalation interventions have failed or are inappropriate:

- A. If the student's behavior poses a threat of imminent bodily injury or substantial or great harm to self or others; or
- B. To prevent significant property damage.

Physical force, restraint device, chemical spray or less than lethal devices will not be used as a form of discipline or punishment.

This policy is intended to address students enrolled in the district and not intended to prevent or limit the use of reasonable force or restraint as necessary with other adults or youth from outside the school as allowed by law.

The superintendent will annually report to the board on the use of force. The superintendent or a designee will develop procedures to implement this policy.

Cross References:

3247 - Isolation and Restraint of Students with IEPs and Section 504 Plans

2162 - Education of Students with Disabilities Under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

2161 - Special Education and Related Services for Eligible Students

RCCW 9A.16.020 Use of force - When lawful

RCW 9A.16.100 Use of force on children - Policy - Actions presumed unreasonable

Legal References:

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. - Additional procedures for compliance

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.

RCW 71.05.020 Definitions

Chapter 392-172A WAC Special Education Services

Management Resources:

2016 - March Issue

2015 - July Policy Alert

2013 - December Issue

2013 - July Issue

Policy News, December 2008 Use of Reasonable Force Policy

Policy 2021 - December Issue

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