Recommended

WASHINGTON CENTRAL UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT	**POLICY:**	**C70**
Board of Directors' Policy	**WARNED:**	**9.17.25**
USE OF RESTRAINT AND SECLUSION	**ADOPTED:**	10.15.25
	EFFECTIVE:	10.15.25

Section 1. Statement of Purpose

It is the policy of the Washington Central Unified Union School District that students not be subjected to inappropriate restraint or seclusion as defined by Vermont State Board of Education Rule 4500. It is the district's intent to create and maintain a positive and safe learning environment, and promote positive behavioral interventions and supports in district schools. This policy is further intended to assist in creating a common understanding within the district/supervisory union of appropriate interventions by district staff.

Section 2. Definitions

The following terms are defined in State Board Rule 4500.3 and shall apply to this policy.

2.1 Behavioral Intervention Plan
2.2 Chemical Restraint
2.3 Functional Behavioral Assessment
2.4 Mechanical Restraint
2.5 Parent
2.6 Physical Escort
2.7 Physical Restraint
2.8 Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports
2.9 Prone Physical Restraint
2.10 School
2.11 School Personnel
2.12 Seclusion
2.13 Substantial Risk
2.14 Supine Physical Restraint
2.15 Student

Section 3. Policy

The superintendent or designee shall develop administrative procedures to ensure district/ supervisory union compliance with the requirements of Vermont State Board of Education Rule 4500. The administrative procedures shall include at least the following components:

1. Prohibitions against the imposition on students of mechanical or chemical restraints by school personnel and contract service providers.

2. Prohibitions against the imposition on students of physical restraint in circumstances designated as impermissible by State Board of Education rules.

3. Restrictions on the use of physical restraint and seclusion to circumstances allowed by State Board of Education rules, including provisions that allow the inclusion of restraint or seclusion as part of a student's individual safety plan only when that plan meets the conditions set forth in State Board of Education rules, and provisions that require the termination of restraint or seclusion, and the monitoring of students subjected to restraint or seclusion, as established by State Board of Education rules.

4. Procedures to ensure that only school personnel or contract service providers who are trained in the use of restraint and seclusion are authorized to impose restraint or seclusion unless, due to the unforeseeable nature of the danger of a particular circumstance, trained personnel are not immediately available.

5. Processes to ensure that impositions of restraint or seclusion are reported to school administrators, parents, superintendents and the Secretary of the Vermont Agency of Education under circumstances and within the time limitations required by State Board of Education rules.

6. Processes to ensure that each school in the district/supervisory union maintains written records of each use of restraint and seclusion in accordance with the requirements of State Board of Education rules.

7. Procedures to ensure that each school in the district/supervisory union implements follow-up procedures that are consistent with the requirements of State Board of Education rules.

8. Annual notification procedures to ensure that each school in the district/supervisory union informs school personnel and parents of students enrolled in the school of the policies and procedures pertaining to the use of physical restraint and seclusion, and the intent of the school to emphasize the use of positive behavioral interventions as well as supports and its intention to avoid the use of physical restraint or seclusion to address targeted student behavior.

9. Processes for the filing, investigation and resolution of complaints by school personnel or parents regarding the use of restraint or seclusion, including the designation of school officials who are authorized to receive complaints. The procedures for resolving complaints shall require that any complaint regarding the use of restraint or seclusion is investigated and written findings are issued within thirty (30) days of the complaint's receipt. If a complaint regarding the use of restraint or seclusion is unresolved at the school building level, it shall be directed to the superintendent in accordance with the complaint processes established by the Board in Policy (insert reference to board policy on complaints).

Section 4. Implementation

The superintendent shall ensure that appropriate staff are provided training by programs recommended by the Vermont Agency of Education unless a plan is submitted to the Secretary of Education demonstrating how a training program not recommended by the Agency of Education contains the elements required of recommended programs and meets the purposes of the State Board of Education rules on restraint and seclusion.

The superintendent shall report annually to the Board on the implementation of the administrative procedures required by this policy, and shall include any recommendations for changes, if any, related to school district/supervisory union policies or procedures.

VSBA Version:	*January 25, 2022*
Date Warned:	
Date Adopted:	
Legal Reference(s):	*Vermont State Board of Education Rule 4500-4510* *16 V.S.A. 563*
Cross Reference:	*C1 Student Records*