Restraint and Isolation

It is the policy of the board 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 plan developed under section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, will remain free from unreasonable restraint and isolation. 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 or isolation may only be used on a student when reasonably necessary to control spontaneous behavior that poses an imminent likelihood of serious harm as defined by RCW 28A.600.485 and explained in the procedure accompanying this policy.

The superintendent or a designee will develop procedures to implement this policy and ensure that the district complies with laws governing restraint and isolation of students.

Last Revised: **June __, 2026**
Classification: **Critical**
Prior Revised Dates: **12.08; 12.11; 07.13; 12.13; 07.15; 03/01/2016; 12/16/2021; 07/31/2024**

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.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.
- RCW 28A.600.485 Restraint of students—Use of restraint or isolation specified in 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 website
- WAC 392-172A-01092 Imminent
- WAC 392-172A-01107 Isolation
- WAC 392-172A-01109 Likelihood of serious harm
- WAC 392-172A-01162 Restraint
- WAC 392-172A-02076 Prohibited practices
- WAC 392-172A-02110 Isolation or restraint—Conditions

Management Resources:

- 2021 - December Issue
- 2016 - March Issue
- 2015 - July Policy Alert
- 2013 - December Issue
- 2013 - July Issue
- Policy News, December 2008 Use of Reasonable Force Policy

Cross References:

- 2161 - Special Education and Related Services for Eligible Students
- 2162 - Education of Students With Disabilities Under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

Adoption Date: **01.2014**
Classification: **Essential**
Revised Dates: **01.14; 06.19; 07.24; 10.26;**