

Schoolcraft Learning Community Restrictive Restraint Policy

I. Introduction

It is the policy of Schoolcraft Learning Community to promote a safe and productive workplace and educational environment for its employees and students, and to ensure that every student is free from the unreasonable use of physical restraint. Physical restraint shall only be used with extreme caution in emergency situations after other less intrusive alternatives have failed or been deemed inappropriate. School personnel shall only administer a physical restraint when it is needed to protect a student and/or a member of the school community from imminent, serious, physical harm. When a physical restraint needs to be administered, school personnel shall seek to prevent or minimize any harm to the student as a result of the physical restraint.

II. Physical Restraint Procedures

A. Definitions

"Physical restraint" shall mean the use of bodily force to limit a student's freedom of movement.

"Physical escort" shall mean the touching or holding of a student without the use of force for the purpose of directing the student.

"Extended restraint" shall mean a physical restraint for a duration of 20 minutes or more.

B. Determining When to Use a Physical Restraint

If all other less intrusive alternatives have failed or been deemed inappropriate to prevent student violence, self-injurious behavior and/or de-escalating potentially dangerous behavior occurring among groups of students or with an individual student, a physical restraint may be used. **A physical restraint can only be used when non-physical interventions would not be effective and the student's behavior poses a threat of imminent, serious physical harm to himself/herself or others.**

C. Prohibitions on Use of a Physical Restraint

The use of a physical restraint as a means of punishment or as a response to the destruction of property, disruption of school order, a student's refusal to comply with a school rule or staff directive, or verbal threats that do not constitute a threat of imminent, serious, physical harm is expressly prohibited.

D. Proper Administration of a Physical Restraint

Only trained school personnel shall administer physical restraints. Trained school personnel are those individuals who have received 8-10 hours of training in the Nonviolent Crisis Intervention training program and received a certificate of completion.

Whenever possible, the administration of the physical restraint shall be witnessed by at least one adult who does not participate in the physical restraint. When administering a physical restraint, school personnel shall use only the amount of force necessary to protect the student or others from physical injury and shall discontinue the restraint as soon as possible.

E. Safety Requirements

No restraints shall be administered in such a way that a student is prevented from breathing or speaking. During the administration of a restraint, school personnel shall continuously monitor the physical status of the student, including skin color and respiration. A restraint shall be immediately released upon a determination by school personnel administering the restraint that the student is no longer at risk of causing imminent physical harm to himself, herself, or others. **If, at any time during the physical restraint the student demonstrates significant physical distress, the student shall be released from the restraint immediately, and the school staff shall take steps to seek medical assistance.** School personnel shall consider any known medical or psychological limitations and/or behavioral intervention plans regarding the use of physical restraint on an individual student.

F. Follow-up Procedures and Reporting Requirements

1. Follow-up Procedures

At an appropriate time after a student has been released from a restraint, the school shall implement these follow-up procedures:

- a. review the restraint with the student to address the behavior that precipitated the restraint;
- b. review the incident with school personnel who administered the restraint to discuss whether proper restraint procedures were followed;
- c. consider whether any follow-up is appropriate for the students who witnessed the incident.

2. Reporting Requirements

- a. Any physical restraint lasting 2 or more minutes or that results in an injury to a student or staff member shall be reported.
- b. The school staff member who administers a physical restraint shall verbally inform

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- c. consider whether any follow-up is appropriate for the students who witnessed the incident.

2. Reporting Requirements

- a. Any physical restraint lasting 2 or more minutes or that results in an injury to a student or staff member shall be reported.
- b. The school staff member who administers a physical restraint shall verbally inform

the school director or designee of the restraint as soon as possible and no later than the close of the school day in which the restraint was administered. A written report shall be completed and provided to the director no later than the next working day.

c. The director shall maintain an on-going record of all reported instances of physical restraint.

d. The director or designee shall verbally inform the student's parents/guardians of any physical restraint of 2 minutes or longer or that results in an injury to student or staff as soon as possible and by a written report no later than three school working days following the incident.

e. An oversight committee will meet quarterly to review the use of restrictive procedures based upon patterns or problems indicated by similarities in the time of day, day of the week, duration of the use of a procedure, the individuals involved, or other factors associated with the use of restrictive procedures; the number of times a restrictive procedure is used school-wide and for individual children; the number and types of injuries, if any, resulting from the use of restrictive procedures; whether restrictive procedures are used for non-emergency situations; the need for additional staff training and proposed actions to minimize the use of restrictive procedures. The oversight committee for the 2014-15 school year will be Deb Carlson-Doom (Special Education Director) dcarlsondoom@isesmn.org Scott Anderson (Schoolcraft Director) scott@schoolcraft.org Sara Dreyer (Special Education Teacher) sarad@schoolcraft.org and Shelly Olson (Mental Health Services Coordinator) shelly@schoolcraft.org.

III. Training Requirements

Non-Violent Crisis Intervention training will be offered to those staff that may be involved with Physical Restraint situations. All students at Schoolcraft are taught Social, Emotional Learning strategies. Staff members are also taught positive behavior interventions through CPI trainings. Please contact Sharlene Zeman-Sperle (SEL Coordinator) for further information.

Sharleen@schoolcraft.org

Additional resources:

Upper Mississippi Mental Health Center 218-751-3280

Crisis Prevention/Intervention www.crisisprevention.com

Peacemaker Resources www.peacemakerresources.org

IV. Complaint Procedures

A student or his/her parent or guardian who has concerns regarding a specific use of physical restraint may seek to resolve his/her concerns by contacting the director within 10 days of the written report from the school. The director will attempt to resolve the complaint fairly and expeditiously.