

***Board File: JKA***

**USE OF PHYSICAL INTERVENTION**

To maintain a safe learning environment, district employees may, within the scope of their employment and consistent with state law, use physical intervention and restraint with students in accordance with this policy and accompanying regulation. Such actions shall not be considered child abuse or corporal punishment if performed in good faith and in compliance with this policy and accompanying regulation.

Should any student with a disability be subjected to physical interventions, any accommodations or safeguards outlined in a student's IEP, Section 504 Plan, or Behavior Intervention Plan shall be provided and/or followed when utilizing physical intervention. Should a student who is a multi-lingual learner be subjected to physical intervention, appropriate accommodations shall be provided.

**Physical Intervention**

No corporal punishment shall be administered to any student by any district employee or volunteer.

There are times within the scope of their employment, when it becomes necessary for staff to use reasonable and appropriate physical intervention with a student that does not constitute restraint as defined by this policy, to accomplish the following:

1. To quell a disturbance threatening physical injury to the student or others.
2. To obtain possession of weapons or other dangerous objects upon or within the control of the student.
3. For the purpose of self-defense.
4. For protection of persons against physical injury, or to prevent the destruction of property which could lead to physical injury to the student or others.

Under no circumstances shall a student be physically restrained for one minute or longer or secluded unless the circumstances precipitating the restraint or seclusion meet the criteria of an "emergency" as defined by state law and this policy.

**Parent**

For purposes of determining who receives notice of restraints and seclusions for District students, Parent is defined by State Board of Education regulation and this policy as follows:

1. A biological or adoptive parent of a child;
2. A foster parent, unless state law, regulations, or contractual obligations with a state or local entity prohibit a foster parent from acting as a parent;

3. A guardian generally authorized to act as the child's parent or authorized to make educational decisions for the child (but not the State if the child is a ward of the State);
4. An individual acting in the place of a biological parent or adoptive parent (including a grandparent, step-parent, or other relative) with whom the child lives, or an individual who is legally responsible for the child's welfare;
5. An educational surrogate parent who has been assigned in accordance with State Board of Education regulations.

### **Emergency**

Emergency is defined by state law and this policy as serious, probable, imminent threat of bodily injury to self or others with the present ability to effect such bodily injury. Emergency includes situations in which the student creates such a threat by abusing or destroying property. However, if property damage might be involved, restraint or seclusion may only be used when the destruction of property could possibly result in bodily harm to the individual or another person.

### **Restraint**

Restraint is defined by state law and this policy as any method or device used to involuntarily limit freedom of movement, including but not limited to bodily physical force, mechanical devices, and chemicals, and seclusion. Physical intervention with a student or holding of a student in a position other than a prone position for less than one minutes by a district employee for the protection of the student or others or to prevent or stop the destruction of property and other actions shall not constitute a physical restraint in violation of this policy or state law.

### **Seclusion**

Seclusion is defined by state law and this policy as the placement of a student alone in a room from which egress is prevented. Seclusion does not include time-out, as described in State Board of Education rules and this policy's accompanying regulation.

Rooms within a school building will not be designated solely for the purpose of seclusion. In the event a student is secluded consistent with this policy, the space where the child is secluded must have adequate lighting, ventilation, and size, and to the extent possible under specific circumstances, the space should be free of injurious items.

### **Basis for the Use of Restraint and Seclusion**

District employees shall not use restraint or seclusion as a form of discipline or to gain compliance from a student. District employees are also prohibited from restraining a student by use of chemical restraint, as such term is defined by applicable State Board of Education rules and this policy's accompanying regulation. District employees shall not use mechanical restraints or prone restraints, as such terms are defined by applicable State Board of Education rules and this policy's accompanying regulation, except under the limited conditions set forth in State Board of Education rules.

Restraint and seclusion shall be administered only in an emergency and with extreme caution and only by district employees trained in accordance with applicable State Board of Education rules. Restraint and seclusion shall only be used after the failure of less restrictive alternatives or a

determination that such alternatives would be inappropriate or ineffective under the circumstances. All restraint and seclusion shall be administered in conformity with both the general requirements and the particular requirements for specific restraints set forth in State Board of Education rules and this policy's accompanying regulation. When it is determined by trained district staff that the restraint or seclusion is no longer necessary to protect the student or others (i.e., the emergency no longer exists), the restraint shall be removed or the seclusion concluded.

A school resource officer/law enforcement officer acting in the officer's official capacity on school grounds, in a school vehicle, or at a school activity or sanctioned event shall not use handcuffs on any student, unless there is a danger to themselves or others or handcuffs are used during a custodial arrest that requires transport.

### **Exceptions**

The restraint provisions in this policy and accompanying regulation shall not apply to:

1. Peace officers as defined by C.R.S. 16-2.5-101 et seq. who are acting within the scope of their employment or in accordance with C.R.S. 16-3-109; and
2. When the district is engaged in transporting a student from one facility or location to another facility or location when it is within the scope of the district's powers and authority to effect such transportation.

### **Reporting Restraints and Seclusion**

If any type of restraint or seclusion is used by any school employee or volunteer, such employee or volunteer shall provide verbal or written notice to school administration as soon as possible on the day of the incident. School administration shall notify Parent as to the use of restraint on the same day the restraint or seclusion occurs in accordance with this policy's accompanying regulation.

Within one school day of the incident, the school employee or volunteer shall submit via email a written report to school administration containing the information required by State Board of Education rule, as set forth in this policy's accompanying regulation.

Parents shall receive notice of restraints and seclusions in accordance with this policy's accompanying regulation.

### **Filing a Complaint**

Parents may file a complaint regarding the use of restraint or seclusion in accordance with district policy AC, district policy KE, and with the Colorado Department of Education by mail, hand-delivery, or other secure method to the IDEA State Complaints Officer, Exceptional Student Leadership Unit, Dispute Resolution Office, 1560 Broadway, Suite 1175, Denver, Colorado, 80202.

Adopted: September 7, 1982  
Revised: October 5, 1993  
Revised: August 7, 2001  
Revised: September 21, 2010  
Revised: \_\_\_\_\_

LEGAL REFS.:

C.R.S. 18-1-703 use of physical force by those supervising minors  
C.R.S. 18-1-901(3)(e) definition of a deadly weapon  
C.R.S. 18-6-401(1) definition of child abuse  
C.R.S. 19-1-103 (1) definition of abuse and neglect  
C.R.S. 22-1-140 definition of corporal punishment and prohibition of its imposition  
C.R.S. 22-2-107 (1)(a) and (1)(c) State board - power  
C.R.S. 22-32-109.1(2)(a) adoption and enforcement of discipline code  
C.R.S. 22-32-109.1(2)(a)(I)(L) safe school plan must include a conduct and discipline code that includes information concerning district policies for the use of restraint and seclusion and information concerning the process for filing a complaint regarding the same  
C.R.S. 22-32-109.1(2) policy required as part of safe schools plan  
C.R.S. 22-32-109.1(9) immunity provisions in safe schools law  
C.R.S. 26-20-101 et seq. Protection of Individuals from Restraint and Seclusion Act  
C.R.S. 26-20-108 Protection of Individuals from Restraint and Seclusion Act Rules  
C.R.S. 26-20-111 use of restraints in public schools – certain restraints prohibited  
C.R.S. 22-32-147 use of restraint on students

1 CCR 301-45 State Board of Education rules for the Administration of the Protection of Persons from Restraint Act

CROSS REFS.:

AC and sub-codes (all relate to Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity)  
ADD Safe Schools  
JIC and sub-codes (all relate to student conduct)  
JK and sub-codes (all relate to student discipline)  
JKA-R Use of Physical Intervention and Restraint  
JKA-E Student Restraint Incident Report Form  
KE Concerns and Complaints