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| Sharon Jt. 11 | **Student Conduct and the Use of Physical Force or Restraint** | 447.1 |

**Use of Restraint and/or Seclusion**

School discipline requires the guidance of pupils in a way which permits the orderly and efficient operation of the school. The Sharon Jt. 11 Board of Education understands that the authority of teachers and the administrator is necessary to assure that students are provided with a safe, appropriate learning environment. The Board of Education does not condone the use of, restraint or seclusion by employees when dealing with pupils, and corporal punishment and unreasonable use of physical force are expressly prohibited. The Board recognizes, however, that it may be necessary for school personnel to use reasonable and appropriate restraint and/or seclusion when a student’s behavior presents a clear, present, and imminent risk to the physical safety of the student or others and it is the least restrictive intervention feasible.

*No official, employee or agent of the Sharon Community School may subject a student enrolled in the school district to corporal punishment, according to Section 118.31 of the State Statutes.*

*“…’corporal punishment’ means the intentional infliction of physical pain which is used as a means of discipline. ‘Corporal punishment’ includes, but is not limited to, paddling, slapping or prolonged maintenance of physically painful positions when used as a means of discipline. ‘Corporal punishment’ does not include actions consistent with an individual educational program developed under s. 115.80(3)(e) [for children with exceptional educational needs] or reasonable physical activities associated with athletic training or therapy provided by licensed and certified staff.*

*School officials, employees or agents of a school board are prohibited from using physical restraint except when:*

1. *A student’s behavior presents a clear, present and imminent risk to the physical safety of the other students or to others, and it is the least restrictive intervention feasible;*
2. *There are no medical contraindications to it use;*
3. *The degree of force and duration used do not exceed what is necessary and reasonable to resolve the risk to the physical safety of the student or others; and*
4. *No prohibited maneuver is used.*

*This policy prohibits maneuvers or techniques that:*

1. *Do not give adequate attention and care to protecting the pupil’s head;*
2. *Cause chest compression by placing pressure or weight on the student’s chest, lungs, sternum, diaphragm, back or abdomen;*
3. *Place pressure or weight on the student’s neck or throat, or on an artery, or on the back of the student’s head or neck, or that otherwise obstruct the student’s circulation or breathing; and*
4. *Constitute corporal punishment.*

*Physical restraint also call “manual restraint” as defined by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) means:*

*“a restriction that immobilizes or reduces the ability of a student to freely move his or her torso, arms, legs, or head”*

*It does not include:*

1. *Briefly holding a student in order to calm or comfort the student;*
2. *Holding a student’s hand or arm to escort the student safely from one area to another when the student is complying with the request to move;*
3. *Intervening in a fight;*
4. *Using protective or stabilizing devices, including adaptive equipment prescribed by a health care professional.*

*Seclusion is defined as the involuntary confinement of a pupil, apart from others, in a room or area from which the pupil is physically prevented from leaving. The definition of seclusion does not include the following:*

* + - 1. *Directing a pupil who is disruptive to temporarily separate himself or herself from the general activity in the classroom to allow the pupil to regain behavioral control and the employee to maintain or regain classroom order if the pupil is not confined to an area from which he or she is physically prevented from leaving.*
      2. *Directing a pupil to temporarily remain in the classroom to complete tasks while other pupils participate in activities outside the classroom if the pupil is not physically prevented from leaving the classroom.*

*School officials, employees or agents of the board are prohibited from using seclusion, except when:*

* 1. *Student’s* behavior presents a clear, present, and imminent risk to the physical safety of the *student* or others and is the least restrictive intervention feasible.
  2. District employee maintains constant supervision of the pupil.
  3. If the area or room used for seclusion is free of objects or fixtures that may injure the pupil.
  4. If a pupil is secluded in a room, no door connecting the room may be capable of being locked.
  5. If a student is secluded the pupil must have adequate access to bathroom facilities, drinking water, necessary medication, and regularly scheduled meals and the duration of the seclusion is only as long as necessary to resolve the clear, present, and imminent risk to the physical safety of the pupil or others.

*In determining whether or not a person was acting within the exceptions listed above, deference shall be given to reasonable, good faith judgments made by an official, employee or agent of a school board.*

*All teaching and support staff of the Sharon Community School shall be appraised of this policy annually and reminded that a violation will be deemed cause for disciplinary action. A “Report of Physical Force or Restraint” form (form 447.1) shall be submitted to the Principal within 48 hours of any incident resulting in the use of physical force or restraint of a student.*

*Parents shall be notified the day physical force or restraint is used with a student by the case manager or other person as designated by the building Principal. The “Report of Physical Force or Restraint” form shall be made available for review to parent/guardian(s).*

*Only staff trained and currently certified as successfully completing Non-Violent Crisis Intervention Training shall use restraint unless there is not a person available to assist.*

*A record of training received by staff will be maintained including information on how long the training is considered valid by the training program. Such training program shall include demonstration of proficiency in administering physical restraint.*

*Guidelines for the use of physical restraint shall be reviewed annually and revised as needed and shared with staff annually.*

*For students with disabilities, the first time physical restraint is used on a student, the student’s IEP team must meet as soon as possible after the incident. The meeting will include a review of the student’s IEP to make sure that it contains appropriate positive behavioral supports, interventions, and other strategies to address the behavior and revise if necessary.*

*Annually, by September 1, a report shall be submitted to the Board of Education that includes the number of instances of seclusion and restraint in the previous year, number of children involved and number of those children with disabilities.*

*This law only applies to the treatment of students and not to the treatment of persons who are not students. The district will provide in-service training or any other type of training to assist school employees in complying with the corporal punishment law.*

*Legal Reference: Wis Stats 118.31, WI Act 125*

*Cross Reference: Wis Stats 115.80*

Adopted: April 12, 1988

Revised: April 15, 2013