

Section: **STUDENTS**

Policy Title: **Restraint or Isolation of Students**

It is the policy of the Kelso Board of Directors that the district maintains a safe learning environment while treating all students with dignity and respect. All students in the district, including those with an Individualized Education Program (IEP), or a plan developed under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 will remain free from the unreasonable restraint, restraint devices, isolation, and other uses of physical force. 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, isolation, or other forms of reasonable force may be used on any student when reasonably necessary to control spontaneous behavior that poses an “imminent likelihood of serious harm” as defined by RCW 70.96B.010 and Chapter 392-172A WAC and explained in the procedure accompanying this policy. Staff will closely monitor such actions to prevent harm to the student and will use the minimum amount of restraint and isolation appropriate to protect the safety of students and staff. The restraint, isolation, or other forms of reasonable force will be discontinued when the likelihood of serious harm has dissipated.

The superintendent or a designee will develop procedures to implement this policy, including review, reporting and parent/guardian notification of incidents involving restraint or isolation as required by law. The superintendent or designee will report annually to the board on incidents involving the use of force.

<b>Cross References:</b>	Policy 2161	Special Education and Related Services for Eligible Students
	Policy 2162	Education of Students with Disabilities Under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

- Legal Reference:** RCW 9A.16.020 Use of Force – When lawful  
 RCW 9A.16.100 Use of Force on Children – Policy –  
 Actions presumed unreasonable  
 RCW28A.150.300 Corporal Punishment Prohibited – Adoption  
 of policy
- RCW28A.155.210 Use of restraint or isolation – Requirement  
 for procedures to notify parent or  
 guardian
- RCW28A.600.485 Restraint of students with individualized  
 education programs or plans developed  
 under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of  
 1973 – Procedures – Definitions (as amended  
 by SHB 1240)
- WAC 392-400-235 Discipline – Conditions and limitations  
 Chapter 392-172A WAC – Rules for the provision of special  
 education
- WAC 392-172A-510092 Imminent
- WAC 392-172A-01109 Likelihood of Serious Harm

**Management Resources:**

- Policy News*, March 2016
- Policy Alert*, July 2015
- Policy and Legal News*, December 2013      New policy on Isolation and  
 Restraint of students with  
 IEPs and 504 plans
- Policy and Legal News*, July 2013      Use of Reasonable Force Policy  
 retitled, revised to include  
 new reporting requirement  
 pursuant to ESSB 1688
- Policy News*, December 2008      Use of Reasonable Force Policy

Adopted: January 27, 2014  
Revised: December 7, 2015  
Revised: August 13, 2018  
Revised: August 12, 2019