

Required Notification of Isolation or Restraint of Students with IEPs or Section 504 Plans

Brewster School District
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A. Definitions

- **Isolation:** Restricting the student alone within a room or any other form of enclosure, from which the student may not leave. It does not include a student's voluntary use of a quiet space for self-calming, or temporary removal of a student from his or her regular instructional area to an unlocked area for purposes of carrying out an appropriate positive behavior intervention plan.
- **Restraint:** Physical intervention or force used to control a student, including the use of a restraint device to restrict a student's freedom of movement. It does not include appropriate use of a prescribed medical, orthopedic, or therapeutic device when used as intended, such as to achieve proper body position, balance, or alignment, or to permit a student to participate in activities safely.
- **Restraint Device:** A device used to assist in controlling a student, including, but not limited to, metal handcuffs, plastic ties, ankle restraints, leather cuffs, other hospital-type restraints, pepper spray, tasers, or batons. This section shall not be construed as encouraging the use of these devices. A restraint device does not include a seat harness used to transport a student safely or other safety devices, including safety belts for wheelchairs, changing tables, booster seats, and other ambulatory or therapeutic devices when used for the purpose intended for the safety of a student.

B. Authorized Use of Isolation, Restraint, or a Restraint Device

District staff are authorized to use isolation, restraint, or a restraint device:

- when the student's behavior poses an imminent likelihood of serious harm as defined in WAC 392-172A-01092 and 392-172A-01109; and
- as specified in a student's Individualized Education Program (IEP), Emergency Response Protocol (ERP), and in a manner consistent with Chapter 392-172A WAC, or in the student's 504 Plan.
- Under no circumstances will isolation, restraint, or restraint devices be used for purposes of discipline or punishment.

C. Review of Incident

Following release of a student from isolation or restraint, the school will:

- review the incident with the student and their parent/guardian (though not necessarily at the same time) to address the behavior that precipitated the incident; and

- review the incident with the staff member who administered the isolation or restraint to discuss whether proper procedures were followed.

D. Reporting Requirement

If any school staff member, school resource officer (SRO), or school security officer (SSO) isolates or restrains a student with an IEP or a 504 Plan during school-sponsored instruction or activities, he or she will:

- inform the principal or designee as soon as possible and;
- submit a written report of the incident to the district office within two (2) business days that contains, at a minimum:
 - the date and time of the incident
 - the name and job title of the staff member who administered the restraint or isolation
 - a description of the activity that led to the restraint or isolation
 - the type of restraint or isolation used on the student, and the duration
 - whether the student or staff was physically injured during the restraint or isolation
 - any medical care provided to the student or staff
 - any recommendations for changing the nature or amount of resources available to the student and staff members in order to avoid similar incidents.

E. Parent/Guardian Notification

The principal or designee will:

- make a reasonable effort to verbally inform the student's parent/guardian of the incident within twenty-four (24) hours of the incident; and
- send written notification no later than five (5) business days after the incident occurred in the language that the school customarily provides school-related information to the parent.
- IEPs will include the above procedures for notification of parents/guardians regarding the use of isolation and restraint on their student.

F. Providing Parents/Guardians with Restraint and Isolation Policy

The district will provide parents/guardians of students with IEPs or 504 Plans with a copy of the district's policy on isolation and restraint when the IEP or 504 Plan is created.