

**School District #62 (Sooke)**

<b>PHYSICAL RESTRAINT AND SECLUSION</b>	No.: C-302
	Effective: Apr. 24/01 Revised: Jan. 23/18 Reviewed: Sept. 19/17; Nov. 20/17; Nov. 28/17

**SCHOOL BOARD POLICY**

The Board of Education recognizes that in certain situations there may be the need to physically restrain students. Procedures and guidelines for all supervising adults are outlined in the attendant regulation.

Definitions:

*Physical restraint* is a method of restricting another person’s freedom of movement or mobility in order to secure and maintain the safety of the person or the safety of others. (reference – BC Ministry of Education – Provincial Guidelines – Physical Restraint and Seclusion in School Settings)

The provision of a physical escort, i.e. temporary touching or holding of a student’s hand, wrist, arm, shoulder or back for the purpose of accompanying and inducing a student who is acting out to walk to a safe location, does not constitute physical restraint.

Seclusion is the involuntary confinement of a person, alone in a room, enclosure or space which the person is physically prevented from leaving.

A *supervising adult* is a person designated by the principal and who has received the appropriate training.

Guiding Principles:

1. Physical restraint and seclusion are used only in exceptional circumstances where a student is in imminent danger of causing harm to self or others.
2. School personnel are provided regular opportunities for training in the use of strength-based approaches and de-escalation techniques. Specialized staff are additionally provided opportunities to participate in training regarding the use of physical restraint.
3. Parents/guardians are offered the opportunity to be consulted in the development of Behavior Plans and /or Staff Safety Plans.
4. Documentation of instances when physical restraint or seclusion is used must be reported to the school district’s superintendent or designate.
5. Prevention and intervention strategies are reviewed and revised in situations where repeated use of physical restraint and / or seclusion occur.
6. The Physical Restraint and Seclusion Policy is reviewed on a regular basis to ensure alignment with current research and practice.

*Source: Provincial Guidelines – Physical Restraint and Seclusion in School Settings BC Ministry of Education June 3, 2015*