

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
School District #33 (Chilliwack)**

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POLICY

Physical Restraint and Seclusion of Students in School Settings

The Board of Education believes in creating and maintaining learning environments that are inclusive and safe for all students and adults. It is an expectation that all school staff implement effective supports, practices and interventions to prevent and de-escalate potentially unsafe situations.

Physical restraint is defined as the method of restricting another person's freedom of movement or mobility in order to secure and maintain the safety of the person and/or the safety of others. Physical restraint is an extraordinary emergency procedure and will not be used as punishment, discipline or treatment.

Seclusion is the involuntary confinement of a person, alone in a room, enclosure or space, which the person is physically prevented from leaving. Seclusion is an extraordinary emergency procedure and will not be used as punishment, discipline or treatment.

In promoting the rights of all students to be safe and treated with dignity, physical restraint or seclusion is to be used only in exceptional circumstances where a student's behaviour poses imminent danger of serious physical harm to self or others and where less restrictive interventions have been ineffective in de-escalating the situation.

Cross Refs: Provincial Guidelines – Physical Restraint and Seclusion in School Settings, British Columbia Ministry of Education June 3, 2015

Adopted: January 27, 1998

Reviewed:

Revised: February 22, 2005, March 8, 2016