

Physical Restraint and Seclusion

Policy #180

Purpose

To outline the responsibility of providing a safe work environment, and when necessary, to manage instances where physical aggression of a student poses a danger to staff and other students.

General Policy

The Mission Public School District is responsible to provide and maintain a safe, personally secure and respectful environment for all students and staff.

The School District recognizes that preventing escalating aggressive behavior is the best method of maintaining a safe, personally secure and respectful environment. The School District will provide positive educational / behavioural interventions supports for all students in the least restrictive environment, which is considered to be “best practice” for reducing aggressive behavior. Every effort will be made to structure the learning environment and to provide learning supports that make seclusion or physical restraint unnecessary.

Physical aggression or threats of a physical nature by students can comprise the safety of staff and students. In order to meet the responsibility of providing a safe environment for all students and staff, it may be necessary in exceptional emergent circumstances where the student’s behavior poses imminent danger or serious physical harm to self or others, for staff members trained in crisis intervention and the safe use of physical restraint and/or seclusion.

The decision to use reasonable physical restraint or seclusion must be guided by professional judgment of staff only in exceptional emergent circumstances. Physical restraint or seclusion is not to be used as an intervention or treatment procedure. Appropriate School District staff, the Superintendent, and the parents will be informed in a timely manner of any use of physical restraint or seclusion.

The use of physical restraint and seclusion must be handled in accordance with relevant provincial legislation and the School District’s administrative procedures.

See Administrative Procedure: 180-1

Date of Board Approval:

Date Amended: