



Summary of Expectations for Use of Seclusion and Physical Restraint

This informational overview is a general reference guide intended only to clarify for schools relevant legal and contractual obligations, including OPSB Policy. It is NOT a substitute for understanding federal and state guidelines and/or the appropriate state and local policies nor is it a comprehensive description of all applicable legal and contractual obligations. Additionally, it is not meant to explain or delineate OPSB strategic priorities.

OPSB expects that all Charter Schools comply with La. R.S. 17:416.21, 17:3996(B)(29) and BESE Bulletin 1706 §540-543 when dealing with the behavior of students with exceptionalities in the use of seclusion and physical restraint.

Schools must meet the following requirements for Student Seclusion and Physical Restraint:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can only be used if there is an imminent risk of harm to student/others and is used as a last resort when all other de-escalation attempts have failed. • Cannot be used as a means to address behaviors such as general noncompliance, self-stimulation, and academic refusal. • Every 15 minute interval in which the student is restrained, information regarding the student must be documented. • Student must be released as soon as the reason for justifying such actions has been subsided. 	
Student Seclusion	Requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seclusion room must be free of dangerous objects and have an observation window; ceiling height, ventilation, and lighting must be comparable to operating classrooms in the school • Only 1 student may be placed in a seclusion room at any given time. • Student must be seen, heard, and supervised by a school employee for the entire time of seclusion.
Physical Restraint of a Student	Requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can only be used to the degree necessary to stop dangerous behavior and cannot cause physical injury. • Any efforts used to physically restrain a student must be directly proportionate to the circumstances and the student's size, age, and severity of behavior. • No mechanical restraints of any kind can be used. • Only personnel with current and formally documented CPI training can use physical restraint techniques.

Requirements for Students with Disabilities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0-4 Incidents: An FBA should be considered after any incident. • 5 Incidents: Review the student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP) and revise the student's Behavior Intervention Plan (BIP). • 6+ Incidents: Review the student's IEP plans at least once every 3 weeks. • Charter School Leader, OPSB, and the Department of Education must receive a report of the incident <u>no later than the following school day</u> • LEAs must report all instances where seclusion or physical restraint is used to address student behavior to the LDOE through the special education reporting (SER) system, at least monthly.

Documentation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools must provide board adopted guidelines and procedures on restraint and seclusion to all employees and every parent of a student with an exceptionality. • Schools must post guidelines and procedures on the school's website. • Schools must conduct and obtain appropriate training programs for school personnel designed to address the use of seclusion and restraint techniques with students with disabilities.

Notification
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents/legal guardians of a student who has been secluded or physically restrained must be notified of the incident as soon as possible, and given a written report with details of the event <u>within 24 hours</u>. • The school's Director or Supervisor of Special Education must also be notified any time a student with an IEP is secluded or physically restrained.

Reference(s): La. R.S. 17:416.21, 17:3996(B)(29), BESE Bulletin 1706 §541-543

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