



## **Emergency Safety Interventions (ESI) Policy as per R277-609**

1. The principal shall work with school employees, patrons, and students to provide positive behavior expectations and supports consistent with Board policies. The written standards for student behavior expectations, including self-discipline, administrative responsibility for student discipline, citizenship, civic skills, and social skills are outlined in the student handbook.

2. Individual instructors are responsible for maintaining a positive learning environment in the classroom and at extracurricular assignments.

3. All staff members will assist in maintaining positive behavior expectations in common areas of the building.

4. In situations where student behavior becomes disruptive to the extent it interferes with the learning and teaching process, the principal or teacher should engage in the least restrictive interventions.

4.1. Student disciplinary action must be consistent with established rules and regulations according to the BSTA Student Handbook.

4.2. No one may inflict or cause the infliction of corporal punishment upon a student or exercise other liberties prohibited by statutory law as defined under §53A-11-801 (2) of the Utah Code.

4.3. Student's requiring discipline are to be treated in a professional and objective manner, without undue emotional display.

### **Emergency Safety Interventions:**

**Definition: "Emergency Safety Intervention means":** The use of seclusionary time or physical restraint when a student presents an immediate/imminent danger of physical violence/aggression towards self or others likely to cause serious physical harm. An emergency safety intervention shall not be used for disciplinary purposes.

A school employee may not subject a student to physical restraint or seclusionary time out unless such action is utilized as a necessary emergency safety intervention (ESI) in compliance with these procedures and consistent with evidence-based practices.

## 1. General Requirements

1.1. Licensed personnel and other personnel who may work directly with students shall be trained on the use of effective alternatives to ESI, as well as the safe use of ESI and release criteria.

1.2. An ESI may only be used for maintaining safety and may not be used as a means of discipline or punishment.

## 2. Students with Disabilities Receiving Special Education Services

2.1. Use of ESI for a student with a disability receiving specialized educational services under IDEA or Section 504 shall comply with all applicable state and federal laws, and this policy.

## 3. Physical Restraint

3.1. A school employee may use and apply reasonable and necessary physical restraint as an ESI only:

3.1.1. to protect the student or another person from serious physical harm;

3.1.2. to take possession of a weapon, or other dangerous objects in the possession or under the control of a student; or

3.1.3. to stop the student from destroying property.

3.2. If an employee uses physical restraint as an ESI on a student, **use of the following restraints are prohibited:**

3.2.1. prone, or face-down physical restraint;

3.2.2. supine, or face-up physical restraint;

3.2.3. physical restraint which obstructs the airway or adversely affects the student's primary mode of communication;

3.2.4. mechanical restraint, except for protective, stabilizing, or legally required mechanical restraints, such as seatbelts or safety equipment used to secure students during transportation; or

3.2.5. chemical restraint, except as prescribed by a licensed physician, or other qualified health professional, for the standard treatment of a student's medical or psychiatric condition, and implemented in compliance with a student's approved Health Care Plan.

3.3. All physical restraint **shall:**

3.3.1. be applied for the minimum time necessary to ensure safety and a release criteria must be implemented;

3.3.2. be discontinued as soon as the imminent danger of physical harm to self or others has dissipated;

3.3.3. be discontinued if the student is in severe distress; and

3.3.4. never be imposed for more than 30 minutes.

4. Seclusionary Time Out: A school employee may, when acting within the scope of employment, place a student in seclusionary time out as an ESI **only under the following circumstances:**

- 4.1. the student presents an immediate danger of serious physical harm to self or others;
- 4.2. the employee uses the minimum time necessary to ensure safety and uses a release criteria;
- 4.3. any door remains unlocked;
- 4.4. the student is within line of sight of an employee at all times; and
- 4.5. the student is not placed in a seclusionary timeout for more than 30 minutes.

#### 5. Parent Notification

5.1. If a crisis situation occurs requiring an ESI be used, the school or employee shall notify the student's parent, the school administrator, and the Assistant Principal of student services as soon as possible and no later than the end of the school day.

5.2. If the ESI is applied for longer than fifteen minutes, the school **shall immediately notify the student's parent and school administration.**

5.3. Parent notifications made under this section shall be documented in the student information system, as required by Utah Admin. Code R277-609-6(C)(4).

5.4. Within 24 hours of using ESI, the school shall notify the parent that they may request a copy of any notes or additional documentation taken during the crisis situation.

5.5. Upon request of a parent, the school shall provide a copy of any notes or additional documentation taken during a crisis situation.

5.6. A parent may request a time to meet with school staff and administration to discuss the crisis situation.

#### 6. Policy Review by Safety Committee

6.1. The LEA shall establish a Safety Committee, which includes:

- 6.1.1. at least two administrators;
- 6.1.2. at least one parent of a student enrolled in the School, appointed by the School; and
- 6.1.3. at least two licensed personnel with behavior training and knowledge in both state rules and the board's conduct and discipline policies.

6.2. The committee shall:

- 6.2.1. meet often enough to monitor the use of each ESI within the school;
- 6.2.2. determine and recommend professional development needs;
- 6.2.3. develop procedures for dispute resolution processes to address concerns regarding disciplinary actions; and
- 6.2.4. create and communicate uniform methods for evaluation of the efficiency and effectiveness of the school's rules and standards.

6.3. The school shall collect, maintain, and periodically review the documentation or records regarding the use of ESI in the school.

6.4. The school shall annually provide documentation of any school or program use of ESI to the State Board of Education.