

**Physical Restraint and/or Seclusion of Students**

**Policy No. 302.14**

The Board of Education, School District No. 91 (Nechako Lakes), recognizes that it has a responsibility to ensure that schools provide a safe environment for all its students and employees. It is further recognized that in a given situation it may be necessary to apply reasonable physical restraint and/or seclusion when a student presents a danger to his/herself and/or others.

The Board expects that our schools will make every effort to structure learning environments and to provide learning supports and positive behaviour plans that make physical restraint and/or seclusion unnecessary.

The Board recommends that physical restraint and/or seclusion will be used only in exceptional circumstances where the learner poses an immediate danger of serious harm to self or others.

Physical restraint and/or seclusion will be used with only the amount of force necessary to protect both the restrainer and the restrained. Physical restraint and/or seclusion will never be conducted in a manner that could in any way cause harm to the learner (i.e. never restricts the breathing of the learner, never places a learner in a prone or supine position or uses mechanical devices.)

The physical restraint and/or seclusion process shall involve four (4) basic steps: physical restraint and/or seclusion incident, debriefing, notification and written documentation, and follow-up.