

STUDENT RESTRAINT POLICY

The State Department of Education and the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District recognize that school safety staff may need to intercede in situations where students display physically violent behavior. District policy prohibits the use of excessive force, or cruel and unusual punishment, regarding student management and discipline. Safety staff may, however, use restraint techniques to control and restrain a student under the following conditions:

1. The student is an imminent danger to himself.
2. The student is an imminent danger to others.
3. The student is destroying property.

Any use of restraint will be preceded by the following verbal intervention:

1. Order the student to cease the inappropriate behavior;
2. Advise the student he or she will be restrained if behavior does not cease.

If the student does not comply with verbal intervention, the staff member should, if physically possible, apply any of the restraint techniques that have been taught by the district. Staff are cautioned to use common sense and sound professional judgment in responding to student altercations. For example, a 5'2" safety officer cannot be expected to restrain a 6', 200 pound student. Staff should first use verbal techniques to subdue verbally aggressive students.

Acceptable restraint techniques include:

1. Arm bar and wrist lock
2. Pressure point control techniques
3. Any generally accepted law enforcement restraint technique such as handcuffs, mace, or other minimum restraints authorized by the State Department of Education.

Restraint is to be applied until compliance is met and the student is no longer a danger to himself and/or others. Under absolutely no circumstances will restraint techniques be used as punishment. The student is to be removed from a public area immediately and a report will be filed.

For purposes of this policy, a school safety officer is a safety and security specialist employed by the school district who has or is expected to graduate from the school safety officer basic course and who is assigned routine safety and security duties. A school resource officer is one commissioned by the local law enforcement agency or school district and is a graduate of the basic law enforcement training program and the school resource officer basic course.

SOURCE: State Department of Education
LEGAL REF: Jackson Public School District, Jackson, Mississippi
DATE: Miss. Code Ann. §§37-9-69, 37-11-57, 37-7-321.
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