

Southwest Georgia STEM Charter School
Policy S21: Seclusion and Restraint
Adopted: September 17, 2020

1. Southwest Georgia STEM Charter School shall comply with State Board of Education Rule 160-5-1-.35 concerning “seclusion” and “restraint,” as those terms are defined within the rule.
2. The school’s governing board does not intend for this policy to prevent the use of physical restraint in limited circumstances whereas a student exhibits behavior that places the student or others in imminent danger and the student is not responsive to verbal directives or less intensive de-escalation techniques. The school recognizes that determining when and how to implement this policy and any procedures related to it, requires educators to exercise their professional judgment and discretion. Therefore, the policy is not to be construed as imposing ministerial duties on individual employees.
3. The School Leader shall ensure that all employees who may be authorized to use physical restraint are trained on the proper use of restraint.
4. The School Leader shall ensure that all parents are given written and oral notification within a reasonable time following the use of restraint, not to exceed one school day.
5. The School Leader shall develop procedures for observing and monitoring the use of physical restraint.
6. Documentation by staff or faculty participating in or supervising the restraint for each student in each instance in which the student is restrained should be compelled following each use of restraint. Such documentation and the use of restraint should be periodically reviewed by appropriate school officials.
7. Seclusion should never be used at Southwest Georgia STEM Charter School.