



RIVER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Seclusion and Physical Restraint Report 2022-2023

Wisconsin Act 125 prohibits the use seclusion or physical restraint except when certain conditions apply. With Act 125, schools are asked to report and maintain data on seclusion and physical restraint. Through an analysis of the data collected, educators can identify patterns of using seclusion and restraint, review practices used in seclusion and restraint and evaluated the impact of interventions in preventing seclusions or restraints. Using the data collected will provide a framework to reduce the use of physical restraint and seclusion.

The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) defines “physical restraint” as a restriction that immobilizes or reduces the ability of a student to freely move his or her torso, arms, legs, or head. The DPI defines “seclusion” as the involuntary confinement of a student, apart from other students, in a room or area from which the student is physically prevented from leaving.

During the 2022-2023 school year:

- There were 6 students who were involved in 23 instances of seclusion
 - Of the total students, 2 of the 6 were special education students
 - 2 instances were at the Early Learning Center, 21 instances were at River Valley Elementary School
- There were 5 students who were involved in 23 instances of physical restraint
 - Of the total students, 2 of the 5 were special education students
 - 1 instance was at River Valley Middle School
 - 22 instances were at River Valley Elementary School

In all instances, the staff members involved were trained in CPI’s Nonviolent Crisis Intervention. Currently, 60 RVSD staff members are trained and certified in utilizing the Crisis Prevention Institute’s (CPI’s) *Nonviolent Crisis Intervention*® (NVCI) training program. The NVCI program is a nationally recognized program that emphasizes early intervention and nonphysical methods for preventing and/or managing disruptive behavior and potentially violent student behavior.

Additional training in seclusion and restraint was given this school year to the River Valley Elementary School staff. In addition, research-based social-emotional curriculum was purchased and incorporated on a weekly basis this school year in grades K-8 in order to help address the increase in behavioral and mental health issues seen across the district, state and the nation since the pandemic.

The *Nonviolent Crisis Intervention*® training program is a comprehensive crisis management system based on the philosophy of providing the best care for the welfare, safety, and security for students and staff, even during the most violent behavioral outbursts. The *Nonviolent Crisis Intervention*® training program emphasizes early intervention and nonphysical methods for preventing and/or managing disruptive behavior. This program provides training which focuses on prevention as well as appropriate physical interventions to be used only as a last resort when an individual presents an imminent danger to self or others. This training teaches skills needed to confidently and competently intervene in a crisis situation.