

River Valley School District

Seclusion and Physical Restraint Report

2014-2015

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.

Currently, 27 RVSD staff members are trained and certified by CESA 3 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.

During the 2014-2015 school year:

- There were a total of 4 instances of physical restraint
- There were 0 instances of seclusion
- Of the 4 instances of physical restraint,
 - 3 were special education students; 1 was a regular education student
 - 2 occurred at the elementary level, 1 occurred at the middle school, and 1 occurred at the high school
 - 1 resulted in a suspension with police involvement
 - In all instances, the staff members involved were trained in CPI’s *Nonviolent Crisis Intervention*®

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.

Components of the *Nonviolent Crisis Intervention*® training program include:

- How to identify behaviors that could lead to a crisis
- How to most effectively respond to each behavior to prevent a situation from escalating
- How to use verbal and nonverbal techniques to diffuse hostile behavior and resolve a crisis before it becomes violent
- How to cope with your own fear and anxiety
- When it’s appropriate to physically intervene
- How to assess the psychological and physical well-being of those involved in a crisis
- How to safely and effectively intervene physically when an individual is a danger to self or others
- Key steps to debriefing, and
- How to develop a school crisis response team