

To: Board of Education
From: Rob Schmitt, Director of Special Education
Date: August 1, 2025
RE: Seclusion and Physical Restraint Annual Report

Overview:

Wisconsin Act 125 governs the use of seclusion and physical restraint in our schools and went into effect on September 1, 2012. The Seclusion and Restraint Statute was developed to support student and staff safety in all schools and learning environments. Consistent with Act 125, and best practice, the School District of Turtle Lake emphasizes proactive and school-wide approaches to behavior management that serve to decrease the likelihood of challenging behavior. The statute provides the following definitions:

Seclusion: *Involuntary confinement of a pupil, apart from other pupils, in a room or area from which the pupil is physically prevented from leaving.*

Physical Restraint: *A restriction that immobilizes or reduces the ability of a pupil to freely move his or her torso, arms, legs, or head.*

Seclusion and/or physical restraint are considered to be emergency interventions and can only be used when a student's behavior presents a "clear, present and imminent risk to the physical safety of the student or others, and is the least restrictive intervention feasible." The Act prohibits several forms of physical restraint and seclusion and also requires high levels of staff training. The School District of Turtle Lake staff members who are likely to encounter highly challenging behavior have been trained and certified in Nonviolent Crisis Intervention (CPI). Through staff training, implementation of proactive and positive behavior strategies, and comprehensive data collection and analysis, the School District of Turtle Lake seeks to reduce the use of seclusion and physical restraint to the maximum extent possible.

2024-25 Seclusion and Physical Restraint Data:

During the 2024-2025 school year, 1 student was involved in incidents of seclusion and physical restraint. The 1 student involved in physical restraint was a student with disabilities.

2024-2025 School Year

Number of Physical Restraints	3
Total Number of Students in Restraint	1
Total Number of Students w/Disabilities in Restraint	1
Number of Seclusions	2
Total Number of Students in Seclusion	1
Total Number of Students with Disabilities in Seclusion	1

	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
# of Physical Restraints	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0
Total # of Students Restrained	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0
Total # of Students Restrained w/Disability	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0
# of Seclusions	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
Total # of Students in Seclusion	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
# of Students with Disabilities in Seclusion	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0