

Annual Notice to Parents on the Use of Isolated Time Out, Time Out, and Physical Restraint

On April 9, 2020, the Illinois State Board of Education issued updated rules regarding the requirements for the Use of Isolated Time Out, Time Out, and Physical Restraint. The rules can be viewed online by visiting the following link:

https://www.ilga.gov/commission/jcar/admincode/023/023000010B02850R.html. These rules require that Southwest Cook County Cooperative Association for Special Education (SWCCCASE) notify parents annually if our policies allow for the use of isolated time out, time out, or physical restraint.

"Isolated time out" means the involuntary confinement of a student alone in a time out room or other enclosure outside the classroom without a supervising adult in the time out room or enclosure.

"Time out" means a behavior management technique for the purpose of calming or deescalation that involves the involuntary monitored separation of a student from classmates with a trained adult for part of the school day, only for a brief time, in a non-locked setting.

"Physical restraint" means the use of specific, planned techniques to hold a student or otherwise restrict a student's movements.

It is the goal of SWCCCASE to ensure a safe and supportive environment to all of our students. In fulfillment of this goal, SWCCCASE implements Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) as our primary behavior intervention system. More information about PBIS is available on our Parent Resources website.

Consistent with the Illinois rules, SWCCCASE only utilizes isolated time out, time out, and physical restraint whenever a student's behavior presents an imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others and other less restrictive and intrusive measures, such as PBIS, have been tried and proven ineffective in stopping the imminent danger of serious physical harm. SWCCCASE does not use isolated time out, time out, or physical restraint as a form of discipline or punishment.

If an incident occurs that necessitates trained SWCCCASE staff to utilize isolated time out, time out, and physical restraint with your child, you will be notified immediately, inclusive of receiving written information about the incident.

Please direct any questions about this notice to Dr. Gineen O'Neil, Executive Director, at (708) 687-0900.

"Opening the world through education to children and young adults with diverse abilities"