

## **SPECIAL SERVICES**

### **Student Responsibilities and Rights**

#### **Maintaining a Safe and Secure Environment—Use of Physical Interventions**

This regulation supersedes Regulation 2614.4.

The titles of school system personnel used in this regulation shall in all events be deemed to include the designees of such personnel and any successors in the event of reorganization.

#### **I. PURPOSE**

To establish procedures for the use of physical interventions in maintaining a safe and secure environment.

#### **II. SUMMARY OF CHANGES SINCE LAST PUBLICATION**

This regulation has been reviewed, and there are no changes at this time.

#### **III. PROCEDURES**

- A. The Code of Virginia, Section 22.1-279.1, prohibits the use of corporal punishment by teachers, principals, or other persons employed by the School Board. Corporal punishment is defined as the infliction of, or causing the infliction of, physical pain on a student as a means of discipline. This definition shall not include physical pain, injury, or discomfort caused by the use of incidental, minor, or reasonable physical contact or other actions designed to maintain order and control, or by participation in practice or competition in an interscholastic sport, or participation in physical education or an extracurricular activity.
- B. This prohibition does not prevent the use of physical intervention in the following circumstances:
  1. Incidental, minor, or reasonable physical contact or other actions designed to maintain order and control.
  2. Reasonable and necessary force to quell a disturbance or remove a student from the scene of a disturbance that threatens physical injury to persons or damage to property.
  3. Reasonable and necessary force to prevent a student from inflicting physical harm on himself or herself.
  4. Reasonable and necessary force for self-defense or the defense of others.

5. Reasonable and necessary force to obtain possession of weapons or other dangerous objects or controlled substances or paraphernalia that are upon the person of a student or within a student's control.

Legal references: Code of Virginia, Sections 22.1-279.1