

Seclusion and Restraint in Schools

Chapter 42

STATEMENT OF REASONS

A careful analysis of enabling statutes, local district and department practices, and public concerns regarding collection of sensitive student data has led the Wyoming Department of Education to propose amendments to the Chapter 42 Education rules. Section 10 of these rules currently state that schools shall annually collect and report the WISER ID (unique student identifier) of all students involved in incidents of seclusion and restraint and the type of regulated intervention utilized. The proposed amendment to Section 10 will allow schools to submit an aggregated report to better meet the privacy needs of our students while still collecting data sufficient to meet the requirements set forth in Wyoming statute and federal law.

Additionally, Sections 3, 4, and 5 as well as other small portions throughout the chapter were eliminated because they were either not required or already included in other statute.

The suggested change to the rules will presumably be well received by student data privacy advocates, local districts, and policy makers looking to streamline bureaucratic processes. In addition, seclusion and restraint counts are small, and the WDE program staff will continue to be able to identify students during monitoring visits if necessary.