

Hello,

I am writing from the perspective of a Setting IV principal to share considerations about maintaining seclusion as an available intervention when used appropriately.

In Setting IV programs, we serve students with significant and complex needs. At times, student behavior can escalate to a level where there is an immediate risk of harm to the student or others. In these situations, seclusion, when used as a last resort, with proper training, can be an essential tool to ensure the safety of students and staff while continuing to support students' educational needs.

As administrators and educators, we do not take the use of restrictive procedures lightly. Our staff receive ongoing training in restrictive procedures with a strong emphasis on prevention, de-escalation, and the use of positive behavioral supports.

I appreciate the opportunity to share this perspective and welcome continued collaboration as we work to ensure policies and practices reflect the realities of Setting IV environments while upholding our commitment to student safety, staff safety, and ethical practice.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Amy Swaney

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