

Tina M. Meserve Superintendent KIM BRANDT
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

August 2013

Attention: Parents/Guardians of RSU #16 Students,

The Maine Department of Education has revised the Chapter 33 rule governing the use of restraint and seclusion. The revised rule applies to <u>all</u> students served by the RSU. This rule establishes the standards and procedures for the use of physical restraint and seclusion of students in education programs funded by the Department of Education. RSU #16 is in the process of adopting a revised policy (JKAA) based on the recent changes. The policy will be available upon request in each school and through the following link on the web at: www.rsu16.org.

Physical restraint and seclusion may only be used as an emergency intervention when the behavior of a student presents a risk of injury or harm to the student or others. The rule sets forth permitted and prohibited uses of restraint and seclusion, required notification and documentation of incidents of restraint or seclusion, aggregate reporting of incidents to administrators and the Department of Education, notification of parents, response to multiple incidents of restraint or seclusion of a student, local and state complaint processes, and Department approval of training programs.

Tina Meserve Superintendent

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**** Posted on District Web page

**** Included in Handbooks for each school