

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT

This Board authorizes professional employees to administer corporal punishment to students provided:

- A. The teacher is aware of the student's psychological, emotional and physical background. The parents and students should provide the school with such necessary information.
- B. Counseling sessions are advised to minimize the deviant behavior.
- C. At the beginning of each school year and when a new student reports to a school, the guidance counselor or person enrolling the student shall inform the student about the Board Policy and the reasons why corporal punishment can be administered.
- D. The student understands the breach of rule involved and the reason for the punishment.

In the judgment of the teacher and in the exercise of sound discretion, such measures are taken, provided:

- A. Such corporal punishment shall not be excessive.
- B. The corporal punishment is administered by paddling the buttocks only.
- C. It is used for the purpose of correction and without malice.
- D. It shall not be administered in the presence of other students.
- E. It shall be witnessed by the principal, assistant principal, or another teacher who is cognizant of the reason(s) for the punishment. Counselors shall be excluded because of the student/counselor relationship.
- F. Supporting records are maintained. Such records shall be made available to the parent(s) or guardian in accordance with School Board Policy, FILE: JR.
- G. Corporal punishment shall not be administered if the student has a physical injury which may be further aggravated.

The safest policy for all employees is: Keep your hands off the student unless there is need for physical restraint.

Additionally, none of the following methods should be used:

- A. Pinching
- B. Slapping
- C. Striking
- D. Shaking
- E. Pulling of hair
- F. Kicking
- G. Shoving
- H. Sitting on a body for control. A person or persons may physically restrain a student, however, the student shall not be forcefully held during administration of the corporal punishment.

Professional employees are authorized to administer corporal punishment for the following reasons:

- A. Insubordination
- B. Disruption of classes
- C. Disobedience
- D. Skipping class
- E. Fighting
- F. Disregard of the rights of others
- G. Breach of school policies and rules
- H. Using profanity or obscene language
- I. Destroying public property
- J. Disrupting lunchroom, e.g., throwing food; putting food on table, chairs, floor, etc.
- K. Performing obscene acts or gestures.

Records of corporal punishment shall be maintained in the school and destroyed in accordance with School Board policy.

Adopted: January 11, 1979
Revised: February 23, 1984
May 11, 1993

Ref: Baker v. Owen, 44 LW 3235 (S. Ct. 1975); Ware v. Estes, 328 F. Supp. 657 (D.C.) 1971; Ingraham v. Wright, 498 F. 2d 248 (5th Cir. 1974); Roberts v. May, 398 F. Supp. 856 (D. CVt. 1975); Roy v. Continental Insurance Co., 313 So. 2 349 (La. App. 1975)