

Franklin County Board of Education

Monitoring: Review: Annually, in April	Descriptor Term: Corporal Punishment	Descriptor Code: 6.314	Issued Date: 06/08/15
		Rescinds: 6.314	Issued: 06/09/14

1 Any principal, assistant principal, or any teacher with the approval of the principal may use corporal
 2 punishment in a reasonable manner against any student for good cause in order to maintain discipline
 3 and order within the public schools in accordance with the following guidelines: ²

- 4 1. A student’s parent(s) or guardian(s) shall be given an opportunity to express a preference as to
 5 whether corporal punishment may or may not be administered against the student. Such
 6 preference shall be expressed on a written disciplinary preference form designated by the
 7 Director of Schools and sent to parents and guardians by school principals at the beginning of
 8 the school year. A parent or guardian may change a previously stated preference by completing
 9 and submitting a new form;
- 10 2. Corporal punishment may be administered against a student only if the school has received a
 11 disciplinary-preference form for the current school year signed by the student’s parent or
 12 guardian authorizing the school to administer corporal punishment against the student;
- 13 3. Corporal punishment shall be administered only after other less stringent measures or behavior
 14 modifications have failed;
- 15 4. The instrument to be used shall be approved by the director of schools by administrative
 16 directive.
- 17 5. Corporal punishment shall be administered in the presence of another professional employee,
 18 preferably the principal or assistant principal; the preferred site is in the office area;
- 19 6. An attempt shall be made to notify the student’s parents or guardians prior to administering
 20 corporal punishment; the parents or guardians shall be invited to witness the administration of
 21 the punishment; and
- 22 7. The nature of the punishment shall be such that it is in proportion to the gravity of the offense,
 23 the apparent motive and disposition of the student, and the influence of the student’s example
 24 and conduct on others.

25 Each principal or principal’s designee shall create a disciplinary record for each incident when corporal
 26 punishment is used. Such records shall contain the name of the student, the type of misconduct, the
 27 type of corporal punishment used, the name of the person administering the punishment, the name of
 28 the witness present, and the date and time of punishment.

29 Disciplinary records shall be filed in the school office and made available to parents or students,
 30 whichever is appropriate.³

Legal References

1. TCA 49-6-4103; *Ingraham v Wright*, 430 U.S. 651 (1977)
2. TCA 49-6-4104
3. TCA 10-7-504(b)

Cross References

Discipline Procedures 6.313
Student Records 6.600-604