

McNairy County Board of Education

Monitoring: Review: Annually, in March	Descriptor Term: Corporal Punishment	Descriptor Code: 6.314	Issued Date: 08/09/18
		Rescinds: 6.314	Issued: 01/14/10

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

4 1. Corporal punishment shall be administered only after other less stringent measures have failed
5 or if the conduct of a student is of such nature that corporal punishment is the only reasonable
6 form of punishment under the circumstances;

7 2. The instrument to be used shall be approved by the principal;

8 3. Corporal punishment shall be administered in the presence of another professional employee;

9 4. The nature of the punishment shall be such that it is in proportion to the gravity of the offense,
10 the apparent motive and disposition of the student, and the influence of the student's example
11 and conduct on others;

12 5. If a student has a disability, corporal punishment shall be administered only when the school has
13 received written parental permission. The parental permission must include the type of corporal
14 punishment that is allowed and the circumstances under which it is permitted. This information
15 will be kept on file at the school. It may be revoked at any time; and

16 6. The principal shall notify the parent(s)/guardian(s) any time corporal punishment is used.

17 7. A wooden paddle shall be used for corporal punishment. The number of licks should not exceed
18 three (3), and should be applied to the buttocks.

19 A student may be given a choice of either corporal punishment or another disciplinary measure that the
20 teacher or principal deems appropriate.

21 A disciplinary record shall be maintained and shall contain the name of the student, the type of
22 misconduct, the type of corporal punishment administered, the name of the person administering the
23 punishment, the name of the witness present, and the date and time of punishment.

24 Disciplinary records shall be filed in the school office and made available to parent(s)/guardian(s) or
25 students, whichever is appropriate.

26 The Director of Schools shall develop administrative procedures to implement this policy, including
27 applicable recordkeeping and reporting requirements.

Legal References

1. TCA 49-6-4103; TCA 49-6-4104; TCA 49-6-4402;
Public Acts of 2018, Chapter No. 900

Cross References

Code of Behavior and Discipline 6.300
Student Records 6.600