

The Board of Education encourages the school officials to use corporal punishment only when it is considered to be an effective and suitable means of discipline. If an offense is serious enough to warrant corporal punishment, it must be administered in the presence of another certified staff member. There should be no doubt in the mind of the student as to the seriousness of the offense for which he/she is to be punished, nor as to the punishment deserved.

Corporal punishment as described in the Assertive Discipline plan may be administered within any of the "steps" for which action is suitable. Other means should be encouraged to be used to modify the student's behavior prior to the administration of corporal punishment.

The school official, when administering corporal punishment, should use an instrument that must not be applied to any part of the body above the waist or below the knees.

It must be remembered that all punishment is to be administered at a time and under conditions when it is not calculated to produce a rebellious or vengeful spirit in the student and should not be administered in the presence of other students.

A parent may veto corporal punishment for his/her own child by written statement given the school. Parents are to be informed of this requirement upon registration of the student in the particular school.

**Guidelines for corporal punishment include the above and the following:**

1. It must be used as indicated in the discipline ladder of the "Assertive Discipline" plan.
2. A student may be paddled no more than once per day.
3. A student is to receive no more than three licks per session.
4. The size of the paddle must be of non-threatening size and its weight should be appropriate for the size of the student.
5. Only certified staff may administer corporal punishment.

REVIEWED: 04-10-2017