

Corporal punishment is to be administered at the discretion of the principal. If corporal punishment is administered, it shall be in compliance with policy as follows:

Subject to the terms of this policy, corporal punishment is authorized as a disciplinary tool in the Lordsburg School District.

District administrators, hereinafter referred to as "disciplinarian" or "authorized district employee", shall be the only personnel authorized to administer corporal punishment.

Where a person authorized to administer corporal punishment is himself/herself involved in the event necessitating corporal punishment, he or she should not administer corporal punishment nor serve as a witness to the administering of such.

Authorized district employees may elect to administer corporal punishment for any prohibited activity or violation of school rules or policies.

Unless an authorized district employee deems it appropriate in a particular case, corporal punishment shall not be administered for minor infractions nor for infractions of a level so severe that they merit referral to non-school authorities for possible criminal prosecution.

Unless a Disciplinarian finds it otherwise appropriate, corporal punishment will not typically be administered until other forms of discipline have been tried.

Corporal punishment may be administered only after a rudimentary hearing, as is required for short-term suspension as described in the District's Detention, Suspension, and Expulsion Policy (708).

Corporal punishment shall be administered to a special education student only if permitted by the student's Individual Education Plan and shall in all instances conform to conditions as listed herein.

Corporal punishment shall be administered by a wooden paddle only. Paddlings may be administered only in the principal's office using an approved wooden paddle (20 inches long, 3 inches wide, and ½ inch thick, free of cracks, splits, or splinters) to the buttocks. No more than one "swat" shall be administered for any one infraction on any one day.

No teachers, aides, coaches, or other staff may engage in any form of corporal punishment, including, but not limited to:

Spanking, paddling, striking, squeezing or pinching any part of the body, pulling hair or ears, or forcefully grabbing or pulling the body or clothing of a student;

Requiring a student to assume uncomfortable positions (e.g., hands held over head);

Restraining or restricting physical movement through binding or tying;

Enclosing a student in a confining space such as a closet, locker, or similar cubicle; or

Using exercise or physical exertion as a punishment (e.g., pushups, laps); *provided*, that reasonable physical work may be used generally as a disciplinary measure, and that physical exercise may be used as a disciplinary or motivational measure for

students in physical education classes or for students participating in athletic programs, so long as in all such instances such activity is appropriate to the physical and emotional condition of each student.

Nothing in this policy shall be construed to prohibit any school employee from reasonably restraining or physically directing a student whose conduct is violent or physically disruptive.

Corporal punishment may not be administered to any student whose parent or legal guardian has stated, in writing to the school principal, that corporal punishment is not to be administered to that student, or if the school has information from the parent or other source that provides reason to believe that the student is physically unable to withstand reasonable corporal punishment.

Corporal punishment may be administered to any student, grades K-12, subject to discipline.

Corporal punishment may be administered in any case where the disciplinarian believes it would be effective and appropriate as a disciplinary tool for that student and believes the student is physically able to withstand reasonable corporal punishment.

While recognizing that corporal punishment may sometimes result in redness or bruising to the affected area, it shall not be administered with the intent of producing bruises, cuts, or injury of any nature.

Within a reasonable time after the administration of corporal punishment, a written record shall be prepared to be signed by disciplinarian and the witness. Contents of the record shall include:

- 1) Date of preparation of report
- 2) Name of student
- 3) Age and grade of student
- 4) Date of the infraction
- 5) Nature of the infraction
- 6) Nature of any investigation or interview with the student
- 7) Date corporal punishment was administered
- 8) Any perceived adverse reaction to the administering of corporal punishment
- 9) Name of the disciplinarian and witness

If the student manifests any adverse reactions beyond normal expectations, he/she should be referred to the school nurse.

At the beginning of the school year, parents and/or legal guardians shall be notified of their option to veto corporal punishment. Notification may be made through one or more of these methods:

- 1) standard school form (registration card, etc.)
- 2) form letter sent from the principal's office of each school; or
- 3) publication in local newspaper.

Any parent or legal guardian wishing to veto the use of corporal punishment must meet with the appropriate building principal and to indicate his or her choice in the prescribed manner (generally the signing of a standard form) during the first two weeks of school or within two weeks following the registration of their child for school.

The decision to veto corporal punishment cannot be changed during the school year.

If the parent or legal guardian has not vetoed the use of corporal punishment within the first two weeks of school or within two weeks following the registration of their child for school, a veto cannot be exercised during that school year.