

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT

In adopting this policy, the Board of Education recognizes an obligation to protect both staff and students. Staff needs protection against unwarranted claims of "child abuse" when they (staff) are using reasonable or necessary force under Wisconsin State statutes. Students need protection against any staff use of physical force which would be in violation of Wisconsin State statutes.

Accordingly, no official, employee or agent of the School District of New Berlin may subject a student enrolled in the school district to corporal punishment, as defined in Section 118.31 of the state statutes:

" 'Corporal punishment' means the intentional infliction of physical pain which is used as a means of discipline. 'Corporal punishment' includes, but is not limited to, paddling, slapping or prolonged maintenance of physically painful positions when used as a means of discipline. 'Corporal punishment' does not include actions consistent with an individual educational program developed under s. 115.80(4) for children with exceptional educational needs or reasonable physical activities associated with athletic training."

School officials, employees or agents of a school board are not, however, prohibited from using reasonable or necessary force under the following conditions:

- a. to quell a disturbance or prevent an act that threatens physical injury to any person;
- b. to obtain possession of a weapon or other dangerous object within student's control;
- c. for the purpose of self-defense or the defense of others;
- d. for the protection of property;
- e. to remove a disruptive student from school premises or from a motor vehicle or from school-sponsored activities;
- f. to prevent a student from inflicting harm on him/herself, or;
- g. to protect the safety of others;
- h. For using incidental, minor or reasonable physical contact designed to maintain order and control.

In determining whether or not a person was acting within the exceptions listed above, deference shall be given to reasonable, good faith judgements made by an official, employee or agent of the school board.

Legislative reference: Section 118.31, State Statutes

Adopted: 1/25/93

Revised: 7/26/10