

POLICY GUIDE

TEACHING STAFF MEMBERS

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Use of Corporal Punishment

Mar 23

[See POLICY ALERT No. 230]

3217 USE OF CORPORAL PUNISHMENT

~~The Board of Education cannot condone an employee's resort to force or fear in the treatment of students, even those students whose conduct appears to be open defiance of authority. Each student is protected by law from bodily harm and from offensive bodily touching.~~

No teaching staff member employed by the Board or a person engaged in any school in the school district shall inflict or cause to be inflicted corporal punishment upon a student attending any school in the school district; but any such teaching staff member may, within the scope of their employment, use and apply such amounts of force as is reasonable and necessary:

- 1. To quell a disturbance, threatening physical injury to others;**
- 2. To obtain possession of weapons or other dangerous objects upon the person or within the control of a student;**
- 3. For the purpose of self-defense; and**
- 4. For the protection of persons or property;**

and such acts, or any of them, shall not be construed to constitute corporal punishment pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:6-1. Every resolution, bylaw, rule, ordinance, or other act or authority permitting or authorizing corporal punishment to be inflicted upon a student attending any school in the district shall be void.

~~Teaching staff members shall not use physical force or the threat of physical force to maintain discipline or compel obedience except as permitted by law, but may remove students from the classroom or school by the lawful procedures established for the suspension and expulsion of students.~~

~~A teaching staff member who:~~

- ~~1. Uses force or fear to discipline a student except as such force or fear may be necessary to quell a disturbance threatening physical~~



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~~injury to others, to obtain possession of weapons or other dangerous objects upon the person or within the control of a student, to act in self-defense, or to protect persons or property;~~

- ~~2. Touches a student in an offensive way even though no physical harm is intended;~~
- ~~3. Permits students to harm one another by fighting; or~~
- ~~4. Punishes students by means that are cruel or unusual;~~

Any teaching staff member employed by the Board found to have violated this Policy may will be subject to discipline by the this Board and may be dismissed.

N.J.S.A. 18A:6-1; 18A:37-1

Cross reference: ~~Policy Guide No. 5630~~

Adopted: 14 September 2021

Revised/Readopted: May 16, 2023

