

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT – USE OF FORCE

6012

No official, employee or agent of the North Lake School District may subject a student enrolled in the school district to corporal punishment, according to 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. 115.787 (for children with disabilities) or reasonable physical activities associated with athletic training.”

School officials, employees or agents of a school board are not, however, prohibited from:

- (1) 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 a 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
 - g. To protect the safety of others, or
- (2) 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. Reporting the use of force shall be in accordance with established guidelines. This law only applies to the treatment of students, and not to the treatment of persons who are not students.

Wisconsin Statutes 118.31
 120.13(1)

Cross References: #6012 Addendum A, Guidelines for Reporting
 Use of Force by School Personnel

Adopted: 9-11-84
Revised: 7-27-92
Revised: 12-19-01

GUIDELINES FOR REPORTING USE OF FORCE BY SCHOOL PERSONNEL

1. After an incident involving the use of physical force by school personnel, a written description of the circumstances and the action taken shall be furnished to the immediate supervisor of the staff member involved. This written report must be submitted within 24 hours of the incident.
2. The report shall be forwarded to the District Administrator within five school days.
3. The District Administrator/designee may review the incident with the employee(s) in question, student, and/or parent(s)/guardian(s).
4. A determination may be made as to whether the use of physical force was appropriate in the specific incident in question.
5. Disciplinary action will be taken as deemed appropriate if it is determined that the use of physical force was inappropriate.

Adopted: 9-11-84
Revised: 7-27-92
Revised: 12-19-01