

Students

Series 500

Policy Title Physical Restraint (Corporal Punishment)

Code No. 503.5

Marshalltown Community School District prohibits the use of corporal punishment as a form of student discipline. Corporal punishment is defined as the intentional physical punishment of a student and is prohibited. It may be necessary at times, however, to use physical restraint of a student to protect the student, others, or property from harm. No employee is prohibited from:

- Using reasonable and necessary force, not designed or intended to cause pain, in order to accomplish any of the following:
 - To quell a disturbance or prevent an act that threatens physical harm to any person.
 - To obtain possession of a weapon or other dangerous object within a pupil's control.
 - For the purposes of self-defense or defense of others as provided for in Iowa Code section 704.3.
 - For the protection of property as provided for in Iowa Code section 704.4 or 704.5.
 - To remove a disruptive pupil from class or any area of school premises or from school-sponsored activities off school premises.
 - To protect a student from the self-infliction of harm.

--To protect the safety of others.

- Using incidental, minor, or reasonable physical contact to maintain order and control.

Reasonable physical force should be commensurate with the circumstances of the situation. The following factors should be considered in using reasonable physical force for the reasons stated in this policy:

1. The size and physical, mental, and psychological condition of the student;
2. The nature of the student's behavior or misconduct provoking the use of physical force;
3. The instrumentality used in applying the physical force;
4. The extent and nature of resulting injury to the student, if any;
5. The motivation of the school employee using physical force.

Upon request, the student's parents are given an explanation of the reasons for physical force.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to develop administrative regulations regarding this policy.

Adopted: January 28, 1991

Legal Reference: Ingraham v. Wright, 430 U.S. 651 (1977). Goss v. Lopez, 419 U.S. 565 (1975). Tinkham v. Kole, 252 Iowa 1303, 110 N.W2d 258 (1961).

Reviewed: December 1, 2008
November 18, 2013
December 18, 2017

Lai v. Erickson, PTPC Admin. Doc. 83-12 (1983). Iowa Code §§ 279.8, 280.21(2013) (2013). 281 I.A.C. 12.3(6); 103. 1980 Op.

Att'y Gen. 275.

Amended: January 5, 2009

Cross Reference: 402.3 Abuse of Students by School District Employees
502 Student Rights and Responsibilities
503 Student Discipline