

Policy of the Lancaster Board of Education

Students

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT/USE OF PHYSICAL FORCE

Corporal punishment shall not be used in the Lancaster Community School District. For purpose of Board policy, “corporal punishment” is defined as the intentional infliction of physical pain used as a means of discipline. It includes, but is not limited to, slapping or prolonged maintenance of physically painful positions, when used as means of discipline.

School officials, employees or agents are not prohibited, however, from using:

1. Reasonable and necessary force to quell a disturbance or prevent an act that threatens physical injury to any person;
2. Reasonable and necessary force for to obtain possession of a weapon or other dangerous object within a student’s control;
3. Reasonable and necessary force for the purpose of self-defense or the defense of others, or for the protection of property in accordance with State Statutes;
4. Reasonable and necessary force to remove a disruptive student from school premises, a motor vehicle or school-sponsored activity;
5. Reasonable and necessary force to prevent a student from inflicting harm on him/herself;
6. Reasonable and necessary force to protect the safety of others; or incidental, minor or reasonable physical contact designed to maintain order and control.

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

Approved: October 11, 1995