

POLICY

Board of Education Las Cruces Public Schools

Related Entries: JI, JI-RA, JK, JLF- RA, JKC

Responsible Office: Chief Academic Officer

Prohibition of Corporal Punishment

I. PURPOSE

To clearly communicate to staff, students, and parents/guardians the prohibition of corporal punishment.

II. ISSUE

The Board of Education believes that it must promote good behavior in an environment that is conducive to effective and efficient learning and the need for mutual respect and cooperation among all segments of the school community. Schools should be communities in which positive behavior is expected and modeled within an environment of mutual respect and dignity.

III. POSITION

No employee or agent of the school district shall cause corporal punishment to be inflicted upon a student to reform unacceptable conduct or as a penalty for unacceptable conduct. As used in this policy, the term “corporal punishment” is defined as conduct involving hitting or spanking a person with or without an object, or unreasonable physical force that causes bodily harm or substantial emotional harm.

IV. EXCEPTIONS

- A. The use of reasonable physical force by an administrator, teacher, other school employee or volunteer as necessary to maintain order or to prevent a student from harming him/herself, other students, school staff and other persons, or property;
- B. Physical pain or discomfort resulting from or caused by training for or participation in athletic competition or recreational activity voluntarily engaged in by a student;
- C. Physical exertion shared by all students in a teacher directed class activity, which may include, but is not limited to, physical education exercises, field trips or vocational education projects; or
- D. Physical restraint or the use of aversive therapy as part of behavior management as carried out according to policy *JKC: Classroom Management and Student Behavior Interventions*

V. VIOLATION

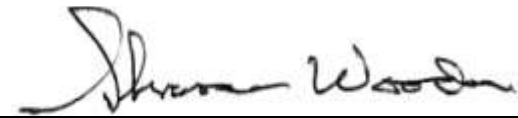
Employees who violate the provisions of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action as appropriate. Any such disciplinary action shall be made pursuant to and in accordance with applicable statutory authority, collective bargaining agreements and school district policies. Violation of this policy may also result in civil or criminal liability for the employee.

VI. REVIEW AND REPORTING

This policy will be reviewed in accordance with the Board of Education policy review process.

Legal Ref: 22-5-4.3 NMSA (1978)

Policy History: Formerly Policy 345. Revised 04.04.06



Board of Education, President

April 4, 2006

Date