

Morrow County School District

Code: **JGA**
Adopted: 5/12/03
Orig. Code(s): 5145.8, 5185

Corporal Punishment/Use of Reasonable Physical Force**

Corporal Punishment

The use of corporal punishment in any form is strictly prohibited in the district. No student will be subject to the infliction of corporal punishment.

Corporal punishment is defined as the willful infliction of, or willfully causing the infliction of, physical pain.

No teacher, administrator, other school personnel or school volunteer will subject a student to corporal punishment or condone the use of corporal punishment by any person under his/her supervision or control. Permission to administer corporal punishment will not be sought or accepted from any parent or school official.

A staff member is authorized to employ physical force when, in his/her professional judgment, the physical force is necessary to prevent a student from harming self, others or doing harm to district property. Physical force shall not be used to discipline or punish a student. The superintendent shall inform all staff members and volunteers of this policy.

Use of Reasonable Physical Force

Reasonable physical force for the purposes of this policy is force which is sufficient to protect an individual's health and safety or to restrain an individual from carrying out an unauthorized or illegal action but should not reasonably be expected to cause life-threatening injury to the individual restrained or prevented from action.

Protecting the health and safety of its students is one of the primary responsibilities of a school.

Teachers and other individuals having charge of a class activity or event are held responsible for maintaining order and for protecting the health and safety of those present. In certain circumstances it may be necessary to use reasonable physical force to carry out the responsibility. Each building administrator shall provide training for school staff and volunteers in the acceptable use of physical force.

The building administrator shall establish a system for summoning aid from other staff, when necessary. Whenever possible, the principal or other identified staff shall assist the teacher needing to use physical force. In order to protect the health and safety of all concerned, all staff members shall provide assistance to other staff, if needed, in carrying out this policy.

Physical force should be the last method used to maintain order or protect the health or safety of students, staff or others present.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 161.205](#)

[ORS 339.240](#)

[ORS 339.250](#)

[OAR 581-021-0050 to -0075](#)

[OAR 584-020-0040](#)