

## 5314 CORPORAL PUNISHMENT COMPLAINTS

No teacher, administrator, officer, employee or agent of this District shall use corporal punishment against a student.

"Corporal punishment" is defined as any act of physical force upon a student for the purpose of punishing that student, except as otherwise provided in the next paragraph of this policy.

In situations in which alternative procedures and methods not involving the use of physical force cannot reasonably be employed, any of the above enumerated persons may use reasonable physical force for the following purposes:

1. to protect oneself from physical injury;
2. to protect another student or teacher or any other person from physical injury;
3. to protect the property of the school or of others; or
4. to restrain or remove a pupil whose behavior is interfering with the orderly exercise and performance of school district functions, powers, and duties, if that student has refused to comply with a request to refrain from further disruptive acts.

Notwithstanding the prohibition on corporal punishment, in the event that corporal punishment is used, the following reporting procedure will be observed:

1. The teacher or administrator who has administered corporal punishment must notify the Building Principal immediately.
2. The report shall relate all applicable details of the incident, including what action was taken, why the action was taken, and what measures, if any, have been taken to prevent the need for such action.
3. The report will be kept on file and made available to the parent upon request.
4. The parent will be afforded the opportunity to request a conference with the student, teacher, and administrator(s) involved in the incident to discuss the situation.

Each year by January 15 and July 15, the school district shall submit a report to the Commissioner of Education setting forth the substance of each complaint about the use of corporal punishment received by school authorities during the reporting period, the result of each investigation, and the action, if any, taken by the district.

Ref:

[8 NYCRR Section 100.2\(1\)\(3\)](#)

*Rules of the Board of Regents § 19.5*

Adoption date: September 25, 1991

---

**Poughkeepsie City School District**