

USE OF PHYSICAL FORCE AND/OR RESTRAINT

The use of physical force and/or restraint on students for disciplinary purposes is judged by the Board of Education to be inappropriate. In most instances, the Board believes that changes in student behavior can be more positively influenced through measures that do not include physical force.

The Board does recognize that physical force and/or restraint may need to be used:

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

It is understood that the use of physical force and/or restraint may be necessary and appropriate in the event that a student exhibits an emotional disability in which conventional discipline techniques have proven to be ineffective. If physical force and/or restraint is part of a total behavior modification program for a special education needs student, an outline of that program shall be a part of the child's Individual Educational Plan.

It is further understood that any school official, employee, or agent of the Board of Education may use physical force and/or restraint pursuant to the provisions of this policy. Physical force and/or restraint will not be used with malice or be used for revenge, or for the purpose of frightening students. The Board expects that physical force and/or restraint shall be used only in such situations after other methods of behavior modification have failed and only when the misconduct of the student warrants it.

The District Administrator is to review all complaints arising out of staff use of physical force and/or restraint and to report to the Board of Education should disciplinary action be taken against an employee using physical force and/or restraint.

LEGAL REFERENCE: Wis. Statutes 118.31 – *Corporal Punishment*