

**SCHOOL POLICIES
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 16**

POLICY	507	Page: 1 of 2
SERIES	500	Students
SUBJECT	507	Corporal Punishment
Adopted		March 13, 2001
Revised		August 24, 2004

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to describe limitations on corporal punishment of students.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

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" means conduct involving hitting or spanking a person with or without an object, or unreasonable physical force that causes bodily harm or substantial emotional harm.

III. PERMISSABLE REASONABLE FORCE

A teacher or school principal may use reasonable force when it reasonably appears necessary under the circumstances to control or restrain a student or prevent material property damage, bodily harm or death. Other school district employees, school bus drivers, or other agents of a school district may use reasonable force when it reasonably appears necessary under the circumstances to control a student or prevent material property damage, bodily harm or death and no teacher or school principal is reasonably available.

IV. 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.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 123B.25 (Actions Against Districts and Teachers)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.58 (Corporal Punishment)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.582 (Student Discipline; Reasonable Force)
Minn. Stat. § 609.06 Subd. 1 (6)(7) (Authorized Use of Force)

Cross References: Policy 403 (Discipline, Suspension and Dismissal of School District Employees)
Policy 506 (Student Discipline)