

**PROHIBITION OF CORPORAL PUNISHMENT
AND PERMITTED USE OF REASONABLE FORCE**

Background

The regulations of the State Board of Education at 22 Pa. Code 12.5 prohibit the use of corporal punishment as a means to punish a student for an infraction of the District's discipline policy. Although physical punishment of a student is prohibited, school authorities and teachers may use reasonable physical force in appropriate circumstances as enumerated in such regulations.

Objective

It is the objective of this policy to prohibit corporal punishment within the School District and to enumerate the circumstances as specified in the Pennsylvania code when school authorities and teachers, in the exercise of their duties, may use reasonable force with students.

Definition

"Corporal punishment" shall mean physically punishing a student for an infraction of the District's discipline policy.

Policy

It is the policy of the Mt. Lebanon School Board that corporal punishment, namely physically punishing a student for an offense, is prohibited. School authorities and teachers may use reasonable physical force with students as provided under the Student Rights and Responsibilities provision of the Pennsylvania Code (22 Pa. Code 12.5) under the following circumstances:

1. To quell a disturbance.
2. To obtain possession of weapons or other dangerous objects.
3. For the purpose of self-defense.
4. For the protection of persons or property.

Administrative Responsibility

It shall be the responsibility of the Administration to follow this policy and to design guidelines for the full reporting to the Superintendent and to the School Board of all instances in which reasonable force with students is used by school personnel.

Communication

This policy shall be communicated to all school district personnel, students and parents.

Adopted April 19, 1993
Revised October 21, 2013