



A World-Class Community of Learners

Fridley Public Schools is committed to creating a welcoming, respectful environment that provides an equitable and inclusive education for each student, staff and community member by ensuring that opportunities, access, and resources are aligned to support the growth and academic achievement of each student.

507 Corporal Punishment and Use of Force

I. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to describe prohibitions on corporal punishment of students and to authorize reasonable use of force to restrain students in certain school situations.

II. General Statement of Policy

No employee or agent of the school district shall cause corporal punishment to be inflicted upon a student as a means 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. MN Statutes specifically prohibit the application of corporal punishment for students in schools, subject to limited exceptions.

III. Exceptions for Reasonable Force

School district employees may use reasonable force when it is necessary under the circumstances to correct or restrain a student or prevent bodily harm or death to another.

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. 121A.58 (Corporal Punishment)
Minn. Stat. 121A.582 (Student Discipline; Reasonable Force)
Minn. Stat. 123B.25 (Actions Against Districts and Teachers)
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 414 Mandated Reporting of Child Neglect or Physical or Sexual Abuse
Policy 415 Mandated Reporting of Maltreatment of Vulnerable Adults
Policy 506 Student Discipline

SCHOOL BOARD ACTION:

Adopted on June 18, 2002
Revised March 19, 2019