

SECTION 442 USE OF PHYSICAL FORCE

Corporal punishment shall not be used in the Portage Community School District. School officials may, however, use reasonable and necessary force under the following specific conditions:

- a. to quell a disturbance or prevent an act that threatens physical injury to any person;
- b. to obtain possession of a weapon or other dangerous object within a student's control;
- c. for the purpose of self-defense or the defense of others, or for the protection of property in accordance with state statutes;
- d. to remove a disruptive student from school premises, a motor vehicle or school-sponsored activity;
- e. to prevent a student from inflicting harm on him/herself; or
- f. to protect the safety of others.

Incidental, minor or reasonable physical contact designed to maintain order and control may also be used by school officials when necessary.

DOCUMENTATION

1. After each incident involving the use of physical force by school personnel their supervisor should be informed verbally immediately.
2. A written description of the circumstances and the action taken shall also be furnished to the immediate supervisor of the staff member involved. This written report must be submitted within one working day of the incident.
3. The report shall be forwarded to the office of the district administrator within two (2) working days.
4. The district administrator or his/her designee may review the incident with the building administrator, employee(s) in question, student and parent(s)/guardian(s) and witnesses.
5. A determination will be made as to whether the use of physical force was appropriate in the specific incident in question.
6. Disciplinary action will be taken as deemed appropriate if it is determined that the use of physical force was inappropriate.

EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

The Portage School Board has established the following disciplinary steps for inappropriate use of physical force by district employees:

1ST OFFENSE - Letter of reprimand to be placed in the employee's file.

2ND OFFENSE - One to three days of suspension without pay.

3RD OFFENSE - Can result in termination of employment - suspension without pay pending result of termination hearing.

Depending on the seriousness of the policy infraction, the Administration maintains the right to bypass either, or both, of the first two disciplinary steps. Additional corrective action may also be added to above first two steps as administration deems necessary.

Employees should be aware that in addition to any discipline action by the school district, the parents have the right to full legal recourse, including felony charges of child abuse. Conviction could result in fines, jail or prison time, and/or the loss of your teaching license.

LEGAL REF: Wisconsin Statutes Sections 118.31
939.48

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