PROHIBITION OF CORPORAL PUNISHMENT POLICY

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to comply with the requirements of Utah Administrative Code R277-608 Prohibition of Corporal Punishment in Utah’s Public Schools.

Definition: Corporal punishment means the intentional infliction of physical pain as a disciplinary measure upon the body of a minor child under the age of 18 or under the age of 23 who is receiving educational services as an individual with a disability.

Policy: A school employee may not inflict or cause the infliction of corporal punishment upon a child who is receiving services from the school, unless written permission has been given by the student’s parent or guardian to do so.

A school employee is NOT prohibited to use reasonable and necessary physical restraint or force in self defense or otherwise appropriate to the circumstances to:

- obtain possession of a weapon or other dangerous object in the possession or under the control of a child;
- protect the child or another person from physical injury;
- remove from a situation a child who is violent or disruptive; or
- protect property from being damaged.

Any rule, ordinance, policy, practice, or directive which purports to direct or permit the commission of corporal punishment is void and unenforceable. A school employee may not be subjected to any sanction for failure or refusal to commit corporal punishment.

If a violation of the prohibition of corporal punishment is confirmed, school administrators shall take prompt and appropriate action, including in-service training and other administrative action, to ensure against a repetition of the violation. Any individual who makes a report or cooperates in an investigation concerning a violation is immune from any civil or criminal liability that might otherwise result by reason of those actions.

Behavior reduction intervention which is in compliance with Section 76-2-401 and with state and local rules adopted under Utah Code Section 53A-15-301 is excepted from this prohibition policy.