## **CORPORAL PUNISHMENT**

Corporal punishment is defined as physical punishment applied to the body of the offender. It has been identified as including, but not limited to, spanking/swats, hitting, striking, pushing, kicking, pulling, jerking, pinching, and squeezing. Only one form of corporal punishment is approved in Park County School District #1 and that is "spanking/swats". It is the directive of the Board of Trustees that "spanking/swats" be kept to a minimum, be-used with extreme caution, and be one of the last methods of student discipline.

The building principal or assistant principal is expected to thoroughly investigate and verify the charges and the appropriateness of administering "spanking/swats". The correlating discipline report form is to be submitted to the Superintendent within two (2) working days.

Only the building principal or assistant principal shall be delegated the authority to administer "spanking/swats", and this shall be done only in the presence of a witness, preferably a certified employee. Teachers may not administer corporal punishment. Violation of this directive may result in termination of employment.

Any-recommendation from a District employee relative to student punishment-should not place the principal/assistant principal-in the position of having to administer (or refusing to administer) "spanking/swats". The decision to impose corporal punishment must remain with the one who must administer it.

Before "spanking/swats" are administered to any student, the student shall be given due process involving an explanation of the charges, an explanation of evidence(s), and an opportunity to explain his/her version of the incident(s). If possible, parent or guardian contact will be made prior to administering the "spanking/swats".

## **Administration-of Punishment**

"Spanking/swats" shall not be of a nature as to inflict permanent physical harm on the child. The use of any other form of corporal punishment is a violation of District philosophy and rules/regulations.

This Administrative Regulation/Operating Procedure does not, however, prohibit the use by school employees of such force as is considered to be reasonable and necessary to:

- quiet a disturbance;
- obtain possession of weapons or other dangerous objects;
- + provide self-defense; or
- protect people and property.