

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT

DEFINITION The term corporal punishment shall mean any act of physical force used upon a pupil by an employee of the Sharon Springs Central School for the purpose of punishing that pupil. Such term shall not mean the use of reasonable physical force for any of the following purposes:

1. To protect oneself from physical injury;
2. To protect another pupil or teacher or any other person from physical injury;
3. To protect property of the Sharon Springs Central School or of others; or
4. To restrain or remove a pupil whose behavior is interfering with orderly exercise and performance of Sharon Springs Central School functions, powers or duties, if that pupil has refused to comply with a request or refrain from further disruptive acts;

provided that alternative procedures and methods not involving the use of physical force cannot reasonably be employed to achieve the purposes set forth in (1) through (4) above.

INVESTIGATION OF COMPLAINTS Every complaint about the use of corporal punishment shall be submitted to the Superintendent. The Superintendent shall investigate the complaint to determine whether an incident of corporal punishment actually took place, and if so, to determine the identity of the person or persons who administered the corporal punishment, the identity of the students or students punished, a description of the method of punishment, the reason why the punishment was applied, the effect upon the student, or students punished, and other relevant facts or circumstances involved. The Superintendent shall report the results of the investigation in writing to the Board of Education.

REPORTS TO COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION Reports shall be submitted to the Commissioner of Education on or before January 15th and July 15th of each year concerning complaints about the use of corporal punishment received during the reporting period. Such reports shall set forth the substance of each complaint, the results of each investigation, and the action, if any, taken by the district in each case.