Corporal punishment may be administered by the principal, assistant principal, or by an administrative designee according to the following provisions of the Lebanon Special School District Board Policy:

The following regulations shall apply to the use of corporal punishment:

- Only in extreme cases and after more positive actions have been taken;
- Privately in the presence of another professional staff member as a witness – under no circumstances may other peers be present;
- In a manner which is not degrading or embarrassing to the student being disciplined;
- Humanely, with reasonable restraint, and never in anger;
- When appropriate, the student may be given a choice between corporal punishment and another disciplinary measure by the school administrator;
- Administered using an appropriate paddle across the buttocks and in no other manner so that it is assured that no part of the head or face is struck; and
- The number of contacts with the paddle shall not exceed two.

Corporal punishment is not:

- To be confused with acts of self-defense upon the part of the teacher in extreme situations of student aggression;
- Physical force used in any manner to obtain student compliance; or
- Physical intervention used by a staff member to separate a student fight.

Parental objection, medical statement, or statement by a psychological examiner indicating the possibility of risk to a student’s well-being may be filed with the school at any time within a given school year and will be honored.

Legal References:

- TCA 49-6-4103
- TCA 49-6-4104