CORPORAL PUNISHMENT

It is the policy of the Berryhill Board of Education to administer corporal punishment only as a last resort after other reasonable corrective measures have been used without success. However, under no circumstances shall any child in DHS custody be administered corporal punishment. School district personnel are prohibited from using corporal punishment on students identified with the most significant cognitive disabilities according to criteria established by the State Department of Education unless the punishment is addressed in the student's individualized education program (IEP).

At the beginning of the school year, parents and legal guardians will be provided the opportunity to request the nonadministration of corporal punishment to their children. If a request for the nonadministration of corporal punishment has not been signed, the administration shall notify a parent or legal guardian that corporal punishment is being planned. At that time, the parent or legal guardian may request that corporal punishment not be administered.

Corporal punishment must be administered only in the presence of another professional, certificated staff member, preferably an administrator. Careful documentation of each occasion shall be made by the teacher or the administrator or both. Such documentation will identify the student and set forth the behavior necessitating the punishment; the person who administered the punishment; and the name of witnesses.

Under no circumstances shall other students or non-certificated personnel observe the administration of corporal punishment. The student shall be carefully advised of the nature of the rule infraction for which the punishment is being administered.

If a parent or legal guardian has requested that corporal punishment not be administered to the student, alternative discipline will be considered and may include suspension from school.

REFERENCE: **10 O.S. §7115**
70 O.S. §6-113.1
70 O.S. §6-114
70 O.S. §13-116