CORPORAL PUNISHMENT

It is the policy of the Caddo 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 or any student on an individualized educational program (IEP) be administered corporal punishment.

At the beginning of the school year, parents and legal guardians will be provided the opportunity to allow the administration of corporal punishment to their child(ren). Failure to provide written authorization will not impact the student(s) and will result in alternative punishments being administered. Under no circumstances will the administration administer corporal punishment to a student where written consent was not provided.

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.

If an incident occurs and corporal punishment is imposed on a student with disabilities, the incident should be reported immediately to a school site administrator and documented using the statewide online IEP reporting system. A copy of the document shall be placed in the student's file and provided to the student's parent or guardian. For each incident, the student's parent or guardian shall be notified as soon as possible, and must be notified no later than the school day following the incident or within twenty-four (24) hours of the incident, whichever is first. An IEP meeting may be needed to review or implement a Behavior Intervention Plan (BIP) for the student.

REFERENCE: **10 O.S. §7115**
70 O.S. §6-113.1
70 O.S. §6-114
70 O.S. §13-116
Accreditation Standard 210:15-=13-9

Corporal Punishment

Corporal punishment is administered to students according to the following policy: Exception - Students on an IEP (State Law)

1. Corporal punishment is a form of discipline used when the infraction by the student is considered serious or is a repeated infraction of school rules.
2. Corporal punishment will be administered by a lead teacher, principal, or superintendent in an office or designated area and in the presence of another certified employee. Punishment must be applied to the buttocks only. The witness should be informed of the infraction in the presence of the student.
3. A written report shall be made for each student receiving corporal punishment. The report will describe the offense and the disciplinary action taken. The report is to be signed by the staff member involved as a witness.
4. Corporal Punishment will never be administered to a student whose parent/guardian has indicated on the appropriate form that he or she does not want corporal punishment used on his or her child.
5. A student whose parents allow the use of corporal punishment may, up to three times per semester, opt to take swats in place of serving one hour of detention.

The first use of corporal punishment will consist of two swats. Subsequent uses of corporal punishment will consist of three swats. Students who refuse corporal punishment will be disciplined by alternate methods. Corporal punishment will not be used more than three times in a nine-week period or four times in a semester.

STUDENT SUSPENSION

The judicial extension of Fourteenth Amendment protection to students in the public school emphasizes the need for school administrators to protect the procedural due process rights of students in discipline cases. The policy of the School District must be consistent with the due process rights of students and must provide proper machinery for fair and consistent treatment of students.

When a student violates board policy or a school rule or regulation, and the violation results in suspension, the principal will conduct an informal conference with the student. At the conference, the principal will read the policy, rule, or regulation which the student is charged with having violated and will discuss the conduct of the student which is a violation of policy, rule, or regulation. The student will be asked whether he or she understands