

## **440 - Corporal Punishment Policy**

Approved by GWA Board of Directors March 27, 2014

### **1. Purpose:**

To implement state law regarding Corporal Punishment of students in the school.

### **2. Policy:**

- 2.1. A GWA employee may not inflict or cause the infliction of corporal punishment upon a child who is receiving services from the school.
- 2.2. This policy does not prohibit the use of reasonable and necessary physical restraint or force in self-defense or otherwise appropriate to the circumstances to:
  - 2.2.1. Obtain possession of a weapon or other dangerous object in the possession or under the control of a child.
  - 2.2.2. Protect the child or another person from physical injury.
  - 2.2.3. Remove from a situation a child who is violent or disruptive.
  - 2.2.4. Protect property from being damaged.

### **3. Procedure:**

- 3.1. Definition: "Corporal punishment" means the intentional infliction of physical pain upon the body of a minor child as a disciplinary measure.
- 3.2. Investigation of complaint - Confidentiality - Immunity.
  - 3.2.1. The reporting and investigation requirements of Part 5, Chapter 4, Title 62A, Child Abuse Reporting, apply to complaints on corporal punishment.
  - 3.2.2. If a violation is confirmed, school authorities shall take prompt and appropriate action, including in-service training and other administrative action to ensure against a repetition of the violation.
  - 3.2.3. Reports made on violations of this policy are subject to the same requirements of confidentiality as provided under Section 62A-4-513.
  - 3.2.4. Any individual who in good faith makes a report or cooperates in an investigation by a school or authorized public agency concerning a violation of this part is immune from any civil or criminal liability that might otherwise result by reason of those actions.
  - 3.2.5. Corporal punishment which would, but for this part, be considered to be reasonable discipline of a minor may not be used as a basis for any civil or criminal action. (House Bill 209, 1992 Legislature)
- 3.3. Exception: Behavior reduction interventions that are in compliance with state and local special education rules and regulations are excepted from this part as provided under Section 53A-11-705.