

STUDENTS

5144(a)

DISCIPLINE/PUNISHMENT

The Litchfield Board of Education believes that good discipline is essential to the conduct of good education. Discipline is that process by which the student learns self-control, the deferment of immediate to long-range satisfactions and the proper balance between self and group interest. The ultimate goal of self-discipline is developed over many years.

Discipline is not the responsibility of the schools alone. Rather, it is the concern of all persons involved with the student; parents or legal guardians, friends, teachers, employers and the community at large. Discipline is a continual process of living in a society which begins at an early age and is continued as the child enters schools.

Students in this school system come from diverse backgrounds and bring with them diverse modes of behavior. While attending the Litchfield Public Schools, each student shall understand that his/her behavior shall be based upon respect and consideration for the rights of others.

Good discipline in the school is extremely important to the school program. Without it, the school cannot discharge its primary responsibilities. Without it, students cannot realize their greatest opportunities for growth.

The following are guides to good discipline:

1. Good discipline is based upon mutual respect between the student and staff.
2. Good discipline is usually positive rather than negative in nature. It consists of keeping students interested and busy doing something constructive rather than punishing them for doing things that are anti-social.
3. Good discipline is fair, dignified and in good temper.
4. Conferences with teachers, administrators, parents or legal guardians should be effectively employed to bring about acceptable behavior on school property and at school sponsored events.

In maintaining discipline, teachers must be able to proceed with the assurance that support will be forthcoming from the building administrator, the superintendent and the board of education.

Corporal Punishment

It is the policy of the board of education that the use of corporal punishment shall not be permitted in any of the district schools. Corporal punishment is defined as physical hurt upon a student in order to punish him/her for misconduct.

