

Jordan Riak

From: "Jowers, Kendra" <Kendra.Jowers@fldoe.org>
To: <riak@nospank.net>; "Harper, Diana" <Diana.Harper@fldoe.org>
Sent: Friday, January 12, 2007 8:49 AM
Subject: Project No Spank

Dear Mr. Riak,

Governor Bush received your letter and forwarded it to the Office of the General Counsel at the Department of Education because it involves legal issues related to the Florida public school system.

On 21 December 2006 this office responded to an identical letter that you had sent to Commissioner Winn. The answers provided in that response have not changed. For your convenience, I have pasted those answers below:

The Florida Legislature has granted each district school board the authority to establish its own policy of corporal punishment. § 1002.20(4)(c), Fla. Stat. (2006). There is no requirement that the punishment be administered to a child's buttocks, and a district may decline to use corporal punishment in favor of alternative methods of discipline.

Your organization may wish to bring its concerns to the attention of the individual districts in Florida that still employ corporal punishment.

Alternatively, you may seek redress through the legislative process.

Thank you,

Kendra Jowers, clerk
Office of the General Counsel
Florida Department of Education

Please take a few minutes to provide feedback on the quality of service you received. The Department of Education values your feedback as a customer. Commissioner John L. Winn is committed to continuously assessing and improving the level and quality of services provided to you by Department staff. Simply click on this link to the "DOE Customer Survey". Thank you in advance for completing the survey.

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