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Contact Information:
Nichole Wilder
850-245-0813
Nichole.Wilder@fldoe.org
DPS: 2017-85

MEMORANDUM

TO: School District Superintendents
FROM: Hershel Lyons
DATE: July 14, 2017
SUBJECT: Recess

Section 1003.455, Florida Statutes, was revised during the 2017 legislative session to include a state-level requirement for recess. Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, students in grades K-5 are required to receive 100 minutes of unstructured, free-play recess each week so that there is a minimum of 20 consecutive minutes each day. Charter schools and full-time virtual students are exempt from the recess requirement.

The 100 minutes of recess are in addition to the 150 minutes of physical education that is required each week. The 100 minutes of recess is defined as supervised, safe and unstructured free play. The 150 minutes of physical education is standards-based instructional time.

The logistics of implementing the recess requirement will be determined by each local school district. This includes, but is not limited to, the development of master schedules, designation of spaces that will be utilized for recess and establishing weather guidelines to ensure student safety. This law does not specify the location where recess must be provided. The recess minutes could be provided indoors or outdoors as determined by local school district and/or individual school leadership.

Each school district superintendent must sign the attached assurance that the recess requirement is being fulfilled within their school district, by September 1, 2017.

If you have questions or need additional information contact Nichole Wilder at Nichole.Wilder@fldoe.org.

HL/nw

Attachment

cc: Assistant Superintendents for Instruction
Elementary Principals

2017 Certification of Fidelity of Implementation of Recess

I certify that our district is in compliance with Section 1003.455, Florida Statutes, regarding the recess requirement.

Printed Name of Superintendent

Signature of Superintendent

District

Date

Due by September 1, 2017 via mail, fax or e-mail to:

Mailing Address: Nichole Wilder
Bureau of Standards and Instructional Support
Florida Department of Education
325 West Gaines Street, Suite 444
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0400

Fax Number: 850-245-0826

Email Address: Nichole.Wilder@fldoe.org