Administrative Regulation

Daily School Sessions, Recesses

Daily elementary school sessions shall contain a total of at least 20 minutes for recess on regular day schedules and no less than 10 total minutes on shortened days, including collaboration days, minimum days, and the last day of school.

Except in circumstances such as inclement weather and exposure to unhealthful conditions, all pupils shall be required to leave the classroom for recess.

School staff may not deny recess to any student. The only exception is if the student's participation poses an immediate threat to his/her own physical safety or that of their peers. If recess is denied, efforts must be made to resolve the threats and minimize exclusion from recess.

A pupil shall not be required to remain in class during any recess or during the lunch period for detention, as a form of discipline, or to allow extra time for schoolwork.

A pupil may not leave the school at recess or at any other time before the regular dismissal time without permission from the principal or his/her designee.

Ref: CCR, Title 5, Sections 303, 304, 352, Section 49056.

Approved: September 1982
Revised: March 4, 1986
Revised: May 2, 1989
Reviewed: July 1, 2000
Revised: October 20, 2017
Revised: June 17, 2024