

# Recess

get the facts



## Recess Bill S-847/A-4076

Signed by Governor Murphy on 8/10/2018.

**S847** Requires school districts to provide daily recess period for students in grade **kindergarten through 5**; permits denial of recess for violation of code of student conduct but student must be provided restorative justice activities.

The recess period shall not be used to meet the course requirements set forth in N.J.S.18A:35-5.

(150 minute requirement for Health, Physical Education and Safety)

- The law is in effect for the 2019-20 school year. (As per the Attorney General's changes)
- A **minimum of 20 minutes** of daily recess is required.
- The recess period shall be held outdoors, if feasible.
- A student shall not be denied recess for any reason, except as a consequence of a violation of the district's code of student conduct, including a harassment, intimidation, or bullying investigation pursuant to P.L.2002, c.83 (C.18A:37-13 et seq.).





- If a student is denied recess, the student shall be provided restorative justice activities\* during the recess period.
- A student may not be denied recess more than twice per week.
- A school district shall not be required to provide a recess period on a school day in which the day is substantially shortened due to a delayed opening or early dismissal.

## RESOURCES

visit **NJAHPERD**

<http://www.NJAHPERD.org/new/index.php/teacher-resources>

and access links to:

- ⇒ **Shape America “Strategies for Recess in Schools” and “Recess Planning in Schools”**
- ⇒ **CDC Healthy Schools, Physical Activity and Recess**



\*For purposes of this section, “restorative justice activities” means activities designed to improve the socio-emotional and behavioral responses of students through the use of more appropriate, and less punitive, interventions, thereby establishing a more supportive and inclusive school culture.

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