

The Board of Control requires each elementary school to schedule recess for all students in kindergarten and grades one through five every school day; provided, however, that recess shall not be required on any school day on which a student has had physical education or structured activity time or if reasonable circumstances impede such recess, such as inclement weather when no indoor space is available, assemblies or field trips exceeding their scheduled duration, conflicts occurring at the scheduled recess time over which the classroom teacher has no control, or emergencies, disasters, or acts of God.

The Board allows the scheduling of unstructured break time for students in grades 6 through 8 at the discretion of the school director.

The school director is authorized to determine the length, frequency, timing, and location of breaks at each school. In determining the schedule for recess or unstructured break time for students, the director shall consult with appropriate instructional personnel at the school and system level, as appropriate, to ensure that break time does not interfere with and provides support for academic learning. The director shall also issue directions concerning the responsibility for supervision of students so that break time will be a safe experience for them.

-Breaks may be withheld from students for disciplinary or academic reasons if prior notice of such is provided to the students.

-Decisions to withhold break time shall not be inconsistent with any behavioral plan developed by the school for the student, including a Section 504 Plan or an Individualized Educational Plan (IEP).

**Policy Reference Disclaimer:** These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

**Note:** The State of Georgia has moved the Georgia Code. This new environment no longer allows us to link directly to the Georgia Code. For example enter 20-02-0211 in the search window and the Georgia Code will appear.

**State Reference**

O.C.G.A 20-02-0323

Rule 160-5-1-.02

**Description**

[Unstructured Break Time](#)

[School Day and School Year for Students and Employees](#)

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**Adopted: April 22, 2003**

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