

AN ACT concerning education.

**Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,  
represented in the General Assembly:**

Section 5. The School Code is amended by adding Section 27-6.3 as follows:

(105 ILCS 5/27-6.3 new)

Sec. 27-6.3. Play time required in elementary school.

(a) All public schools shall provide daily time for supervised, unstructured, child-directed play for all students in kindergarten through grade 5. Play time must allow unstructured play, and may include organized games, but shall not include the use of computers, tablets, phones, or videos. Schools are encouraged to provide play time outdoors, but it may be held indoors. If play time is held indoors, schools are encouraged to provide it in a space that promotes physical activity. Time spent dressing or undressing for outdoor play time shall not count towards the daily time for play.

(b) Play time shall not count as a course of physical education that fulfills the requirements of Section 27-6, nor shall time spent in a course of physical education count towards the daily time for play.

(c) Play time shall be considered clock hours for the purposes of Section 10-19.05. For any school day 5 clock hours

or longer in length, the total time allotted for play for students in kindergarten through grade 5 must be at least 30 minutes. For any school day less than 5 clock hours in length, the total time allotted for play each school day must be at least one-tenth of a day of attendance for the student pursuant to Section 10-19.05. Play time may be divided into play periods of at least 15 consecutive minutes in length.

(d) For students with disabilities, play time shall comply with a student's applicable individualized education program (IEP) or federal Section 504 plan.

(e) All public schools shall prohibit the withholding of play time as a disciplinary or punitive action, except when a student's participation in play time poses an immediate threat to the safety of the student or others. School officials shall make all reasonable efforts to resolve such threats and minimize the use of exclusion from play to the greatest extent practicable and in accordance with subsection (d).

Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect July 1, 2021.