

**Board Policy IEDA: Unstructured Break Time**

**Status:** Draft

**Original Adopted Date:** 10/22/2020 | **Last Revised Date:** 06/21/2022 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 06/21/2022

The Board allows the scheduling of unstructured break time for students in kindergarten and grades 1 through 5, but not for grades 6 through 8. The school principal is authorized to determine the length, frequency, timing, and location of breaks at each school.

The Board of Education 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 principal.

The school principal is authorized to determine the length, frequency, timing, and location of breaks at each school.

In determining the schedule for unstructured break time for students, the principal shall consult with appropriate instructional personnel at the school and system level, as appropriate, to insure that break time does not interfere with and provides support for academic learning. The principal 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.

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**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: To access the policy references, click here [State of Georgia Terms and Conditions](#) and close the LexisNexis tab, which will return you to the policy. Click on the links below to be taken to each specific code. **You should only have to do this one time per session.**

**State**

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](#)