

To: Micheal Loconto, Chairman of the Boston School Committee and Members of the Boston School Committee  
From: Sam DePina, School Superintendent for Operations and Safety  
Cc: Dr. Brenda Casellius, Superintendent  
Date: November 15, 2019  
RE: Additional Language for Code of Conduct Policy Change regarding Physical Activity During the School Day (Including Recess)

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On November 6, 2019, we presented proposed language to update the Code of Conduct to disallow the revocation of Physical Activity (including recess) as a consequence for student misbehavior.

In speaking with some of the School Superintendents, they suggested we add "**as approved by the principal**" to the end of the language presented at the last School Committee meeting. The rationale is that some School Superintendents felt that if a child was going to be removed from recess, then the school principals should be the only ones to authorize it. There was a concern that without this level of oversight, then multiple staff members would be able to keep kids out from recess due to illness or safety. They wanted to limit the amount of people who had that authority so it is not misused.

The final proposed language now reads as follows:

#### 4.0 Physical Activity During the School Day (Including Recess)

The Boston Public Schools strongly believes in supporting and improving the health, as well as the social and emotional development of our students. As such, it is prohibited for any BPS staff member to stop students from participating in physical activity (including recess) as a disciplinary consequence, to provide academic support, or for any other reason other than illness or safety, **as approved by the principal.**