

January 2012

To: Lincoln Hubbard Families
Fr: Matt Carlin
Re: Winter Months and Recess

Dear L-H Families:

Students need as much opportunity as possible to go outside for recess. This is a vital part of the school day. It is a time for students to burn off some of that “energy” they have stored all morning, get some exercise, and simply socialize with their peers. Therefore, we will allow students to play in the snow at outdoor recess during the winter months ahead at Lincoln-Hubbard School.

In order to clearly communicate the expectations with outdoor recess during the winter months, please review the following:

- 1) When the weather is appropriate for outdoor recess, students who wish to play in the snow must have appropriate winter clothing. This means **waterproof** jackets, pants, boots, hats, and gloves – NO LAYERS OR JEANS. Essentially, clothing that will just be put on over their everyday clothing.
- 2) Students are expected to bring their snow gear into school and take them home at the end of the day. Parents should not be running items into school for their child or sending in other clothes to wear. They will not be sent to the student. Because instructional time is most important, students cannot be going in and out of the classroom to change their clothing.
- 3) Students will behave responsibly. This means no snowballs, physical contact games in the snow, etc. THIS WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED, WITH NO EXCEPTION. AGAIN, THE SAFETY OF OUR STUDENTS IS FIRST. ANY STUDENT CHOOSING TO NOT FOLLOW THESE RULES WILL BE REMOVED FROM RECESS. FURTHER INCIDENTS COULD INCLUDE CONSEQUENCES SUCH AS BEING SENT HOME DURING LUNCH. STUDENTS SHOULD NOT BE PLAYING IN THE SNOW ON SCHOOL GROUNDS BEFORE OR AFTER SCHOOL WHEN UNSUPERVISED
***Parental support in this area is vital.
- 4) The decision to allow students to play in the snow is solely at the discretion of the principal. Factors such as low temperatures, conditions of the blacktop, etc. may warrant indoor recess. Parents are expected to support such decisions of the principal and playground staff.
- 5) Students who do not wish to play in the snow will play on the blacktop, *Students must dress for the cold weather. This is the responsibility of the students and parents. Parents should ensure that their children are dressed for the elements prior to sending them to school each morning. Repeated incidents of students missing appropriate outerwear for the elements may result in the parent being called to take the student home during recess. We also ask that parents monitor the weather reports in order to provide their children with umbrellas when there is expected rainfall, so students are not arriving to school soaked or leaving the building at dismissal into rainfall, with no protection.

Thank you for your attention and assistance with these expectations. Have a great winter!

Matt Carlin