HARNESSING THE POWER OF PLAY TO BRING OUT THE BEST IN OUR KIDS

Positive findings from a randomized controlled trial evaluation

PLAYWORKS SCHOOLS HAVE

LESS BULLYING Teachers in Playworks schools reported significantly less bullying and exclusionary behavior during recess*, a 43% difference in average rating scores¹.



STUDENTS FEEL SAFER AT SCHOOL

Playworks teachers' average rating of students' feelings of safety at school was 20% higher than the average ratings reported by teachers in control schoolsⁱⁱ.







i (n=295); Significantly different from zero at the .05 level, two-tailed test
ii (n=296); Significantly different from zero at the .05 level, two-tailed test
iii (n=1,579); Significantly different from zero at the .10 level, two-tailed test
iv (n=293); Significantly different from zero at the .10 level, two-tailed test
compared to those in control schools

STUDENTS ARE ENGAGED IN MORE VIGOROUS PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Accelerometer data showed that children in Playworks schools spent significantly more time in vigorous physical activity at recess* (14% versus 10% of recess time, which is a 43% difference)ⁱⁱⁱ.



STUDENTS ARE READY TO LEARN



Teachers in Playworks schools reported spending significantly less time to transition from recess to learning activities (34% fewer minutes)^{iv}.

Source: Statistically significant findings from "Impact and Implementation Findings from an Experimental Evaluation of Playworks: Effects on School Climate, Academic Learning, Student Social Skills and Behavior" and "Findings from an Experimental Evaluation of Playworks: Effects on Play, Physical Activity and Recess". Mathematica Policy Research, 2013