

SOUTHWICK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
WINTER PLAYGROUND RULES

- **Clothing**: We want to encourage students to be appropriately clothed. Students should be wearing hats, mittens or gloves, boots, jacket and snow pants. Students who wear all this clothing will be able to play in the snow. Those who don't will have to stay on the plowed area. Adults on duty will use their best judgment if students will have to wear boots to play at the tetherball stations. This will depend upon the amount of snow we have or how wet the area is.
- **Throwing Snow**: For safety, students are not permitted to kick or throw snow. (Automatic end of recess for throwing ice, snow, etc.) Purposefully aggressive snowball throwing will be referred to the BOT Room.
- **Snow Mounds**: It is fun to play on the snowplow mounds. To ensure proper supervision, students must play on the side facing the school.
- **Forts**: Students may build snow forts, sculptures and the like. However, students need to remember that at a school, the snow belongs to everyone. (For example, three students building a fort will not be allowed to keep the other 289 students out of the fort.) It is never permitted to destroy or vandalize a structure. Destruction (i.e., kicking down of a fort) will result in an automatic loss of recess and the student being sent to the BOT Room.
- **Sledding**: Sledding areas must be supervised by a staff member. When they are sledding, there is far too much activity for students to safely manage by themselves. Students are not permitted to cross over onto the sledding part of the hill until a staff member arrives for supervision. Small plastic sleds are available here at school. Students are not to bring their own sleds.
- **Sliding with "Feet"**: For safety, there is no sliding on ice or other slippery areas; (the risk of a fall onto one's backbone or head is too great).
- **Flipping**: Running on the flat field and falling into fresh soft snow is safe and enjoyable. However, running and jumping off snowplow mounds or playground equipment and landing hard on one's bottom or back is dangerous. Students engaging in unsafe jumping will be asked to sit out the remainder of recess.

Thank you for following our winter playground rules and keeping everyone safe.