

Jonathan Blasher Executive Director Playworks Pacific Northwest



Senate Education Committee 4/20/2017

Playworks believes in the power of play to bring out the best in every kid.

We are empowering kids by leveraging the power of safe, fun, and healthy play.

Starting with a game: Ro-sham-bo

The rules

The purpose

The outcome



The Solution: Play works to... lead healthy lives

Healthier bodies

43% difference in students who are engaged in more vigorous physical activity on Playworks playgrounds compared to non-Playworks Playgrounds

Healthier minds

Kids in Playworks schools come back to class ready to learn

Healthier communities

Promoting an inclusive school community positively impacts every kid.

Play works to...bring out the best in EVERY kid.

Elementary students with pro-social skills are





54% more likely to earn a high school diploma as likely to attain a college degree

46% more likely to have a full-time job by age 25

Play works to... improve learning

Over 90% of educators at our schools agree that Playworks increases students' ability to focus in class*

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

What this means for our school

Scott School has seen:

- Decreased bullying
- Saved classroom time







Summary

- There is a connection between learning and physical activity
- Kids can achieve more when they have a healthy body and healthy mind
- Recess is a crucial tool to achieve these outcomes and help children develop socially, emotionally and physically
- There are many more benefits to recess such as increasing kids' abilities to solve their own conflicts, improving school climate, and discipline