

*Dear Governor Haley,  
Please help this to come to pass.*

**Having a Great Educational System:**

*Pat Milley*

Changes needed: These changes need to be made in the Senate and Legislature of the State of SC.

*3-13-15*

1. Have every student on his instructional level. A child should be reading books that have no more than 5 words per page with which he needs help.
2. A child should be allowed to read books for fun that are below his/her reading level. This increases their speed and gives them confidence.
3. Shorten the school day by 1 hr. The child needs to be fully rested each night. The educational efficiency will increase. He will learn more in less time. Our children are not getting enough sleep since the school day was increased by 1 hr. in the 90's.
4. Regulate the schedule for a healthy, happy schedule. The children need a 25 minute break outdoors in the sunshine at 10. AM and 30 minutes for lunch followed by a 40 minutes break outdoors in the sunshine afterwards of free play. The children are not allowed enough time to eat at the present time and are allowed only 10 minutes of play time afterwards.
5. Instead of prescribing ADD pills, give the child a pass to the playground for 25 minutes. Keep a monitor on the playground at all times so that this can be done.
6. Require that the kindergarten classes be developmentally appropriate. Put the play stations back in and delete the work stations. All children are not ready to read at 5 years of age. Some children learn more through play.
7. Make sure that all tests are developmentally appropriate. A child should know how to read his/her tests.

If our children are on their instructional levels and the work is developmentally appropriate, they will learn at their optimum.

Our children need a healthy, happy, schedule, with plenty of sunshine and outdoor play. Our children need time at home for sleep and to have quality time with their parents for emotional support.

**Background Information: This is a speech which I delivered to the Horry County School Board.**

**A Time for Research**

To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:  
Ecclesiastes 3:1

At the last Board Meeting, I spoke on "Childhood, a Time for Play." Tonight I wish to speak about "A Time for Research"

Since the mid- 90's, you, the School Board, have made the following changes.

1. Lengthened the School Day.
2. Shortened recess and break time outdoors.
3. Changed learning through play stations to work stations.
4. Eliminated the Kindergartens' naps.
5. Adopted new curricula on the frustration level of the students.
6. Tried to change the child to fit the curricula through ADD drugs.

Now it is time to Research what is happening to our children. We, the people, need to know the answer to the following questions:

1. How many children were on ADD drugs in 1990 and how many are on ADD drugs now?
2. How many children were overweight in 1990 and how many are over weight now?
3. What was the absenteeism rate in 1990 and what is the absenteeism rate now?
4. How many children were treated for depression in 1990 and how many are being treated now
5. What is the result of trying to change the child to fit the curricula?
6. If we experimented with giving a child a pass to the playground for 25 minutes of free play instead of an ADD pill, what would be the result?

Our children's health is priceless. Stress breaks down the immune system. The Board needs to act.

It would be interesting to see how much more our children would accomplish if the trivia were removed from the curricula and the essentials taught and learned in a shorter period of time. Our desire is to have healthy, happy schools for our children with plenty of outdoor exercise and sunshine.

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