

SIMON SAYS, NASHUA SCHOOL MAY HAVE SET WORLD RECORD

By Adam Swift • Saturday, September 24, 2011



Students from the Goddard School in Nashua joined together with students from 400 other Goddard Schools throughout the country to attempt breaking the world Simon Says record. (ADAM SWIFT)

perhaps most importantly, the game must last for at least 10 minutes to qualify for the record and there can be no prearranged calls.

The first victory of the day for the Goddard School was the ability to hold the record attempt outside, as the skies threatened rain throughout the afternoon.

Once the students, well versed in the game as required by the guidelines, stepped outside, school director Heidi Barbere took control as the Simon of the Nashua Goddard School.

From the standard touching of toes and eyes and ears, Barbere expanded into a variety of calls involving animal sounds, movements, and just a bit of hip shaking, easily meeting the time requirements set down by Guinness officials.

NASHUA – It is now up to the officials at the Guinness Book of World Records to determine whether the students at The Goddard School® were participants in a world record, or they just spent a really fun afternoon playing Simon Says.

The Nashua school was one of 400 Goddard schools from across the country that attempted to break the world record for Simon Says participants as the clock struck 1 p.m. on Friday.

Breaking the record involved more than getting the dozens of students from 1 to 6 years old to touch their toes and do jumping jacks when Simon said so, according to school owner Tom Murphy.

“There has to be someone here to make sure the timing is correct and all the rules are followed,” said Murphy, unveiling a page-long set of specific guidelines for the “Largest Game of Simon Says (Multiple Venues).”

For example, the record is for the number of people playing at the start of the game, but the overall winners of the game must also be well documented. Also, and



Simon even threw a few yoga moves, including tree pose, into the record attempt. (ADAM SWIFT)

Murphy said the super-sized game was about more than getting the school's name in the record books, it was about furthering the everyday principles of the school.

"We really want to get the children, their families, and the teachers to interact," he said. "In essence, we are encouraging a dialogue between the families and ourselves."

For the students, the game was an exciting and active afternoon with fellow students and teachers, record or no record.