

HOMEWORK POLICY

DEFINITION

Homework will be used to increase students' opportunities to learn. It is completed outside the classroom and is intended to provide added opportunity to practice skills, engage information, and explore topics using varied learning styles and interests. Homework assignments will include not only written assignments but also opportunities to take part in cultural and creative activities and real-world applications of learning.

PURPOSE

This policy is intended to guide all faculty, parents, and students and to establish responsibilities and guidelines for standards for the assignment, evaluation, and monitoring of homework assignments.

The policy does not apply to students receiving homebound instruction or whose Individualized Education Plans require that homework be addressed in a different way.

TEACHER RESPONSIBILITIES

All teachers will:

1. In an age-appropriate manner, make sure that students understand this policy.
2. Make sure that students understand any individual classroom homework standards that a teacher may have.
3. Assign appropriate homework on a regular basis that is designed to support instructional goals, and that does one or more of the following:
 - Reinforces class instruction and skills that have been taught by transferring and extending classroom instruction.
 - Increases understanding and retention.
 - Prepares for class discussion.
 - Provides opportunities for curriculum enrichment and real-world applications.
4. Assign appropriate amounts of homework per week, which may vary depending on the subject matter and students' needs.
5. Make an effort to correlate the amount of homework given with other teachers so as not to overload students on any given night, keeping in mind the "rule of thumb" of assigning students a total nightly amount of homework which will consume an amount of time approximately 10 times their grade level.
6. Allow student choice within homework assignments whenever possible.
7. Return collected homework in a timely manner and provide instructional follow-up and feedback that focuses on content and performance standards.
8. Ensure that students understand and can explain not only homework directions but also the purpose of any given homework assignment as well as how it relates to what they are learning in class.

9. Positive rewards may occur on a weekly basis for the completion of homework.
10. Parents will be contacted regarding incompleteness of assignments.
11. Collaboration between regular and special education teachers to ensure homework correlates with IEP modifications in all subject areas.
12. Strategic intervention time may be provided for the student after school in order to ensure success in completion and understanding of homework. Transportation will not be provided by the school or district.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Students are responsible for completing and turning in their homework and, with support from their parents, will be encouraged to:

1. Write down assignments and due dates, ask questions, and select necessary books and supplies before leaving school.
2. Keep homework in the same place at home each day and take books and materials directly to that study area.
3. Plan the best time to complete work.
4. Complete work so that it is neat and legible.

PARENTAL SUPPORT

Parents will be urged to actively involve themselves with their children's schoolwork by doing the following:

1. Showing interest with questions about and comments on the schoolwork children bring home.
2. Providing a suitable place to study that is free from disturbances and by supplying needed materials for completing homework.
3. Prompting and offering to clarify instructions and answer questions, but not sitting with the child.
4. Assisting their child with time management.
5. Checking to see that work is complete.
6. Encouraging children to do their best work and praising a job well done including rewarding children in appropriate ways for completed work.
7. Staying in close communication with teachers.
8. Parents will be responsible to provide transportation if their child attends strategic intervention.

POLICY EVALUATION

We will evaluate the effectiveness of this policy through our School Improvement Planning Process.

First Reading: 10-27-2014

Second Reading: 11-24-2014

Date Reviewed or Revised: _____

Council Chairperson's Initials _____

Date Reviewed or Revised: _____

Council Chairperson's Initials _____