

2330 HOMEWORK

The Board of Education acknowledges the educational validity of work assigned to pupils for completion outside the classroom as an adjunct to and extension of the instructional program of the schools.

The Superintendent shall develop regulations for the assignment of homework according to these guidelines:

1. Homework should be a properly planned part of the curriculum, extending and reinforcing the learning experience of the classroom and should be based on the pupils' abilities and needs;
2. Homework should help pupils learn by providing practice for the development of skills, experience in data gathering and integration of knowledge, and an opportunity to remediate learning problems;
3. Homework should provide an opportunity for the exercise of independent work and judgment;
4. Whenever reasonable, homework assignments should take into account academic and school sponsored activities at the elementary and intermediate school levels.
5. Homework should be clearly communicated, accessible and published on teacher websites and its product reviewed and, where appropriate, feedback provided to the pupil;
6. As necessary, teachers should assist parent(s) or legal guardian(s) by suggesting ways in which they can support a pupil to carry out homework assignments;
7. Homework should always serve a valid learning purpose; it should never be used as a punitive measure;

R 2330 HOMEWORK

A. Content of Homework

1. Any homework assigned to pupils must be closely integrated with the curriculum. There should be a direct relationship between classroom studies and assigned homework. Homework should introduce, reinforce or extend the lessons learned in school.
2. Homework should help pupils learn by providing practice in the mastery of skills, experience in gathering information and integrating knowledge, and an opportunity to remediate learning problems.
3. The concepts on which a homework assignment is based should have been, or will be taught and/or reviewed in class. Homework assignments should include only those exercises and activities that a pupil can accomplish independently with the exception of collaborative group projects.
4. Homework assignments should not require the use of research or resource tools that are not readily available in the pupils' homes or in sufficient quantity in the public or school library, or available for borrowing from the classroom.
5. Homework assignments should not require extensive copy work unless the writing of numbers or script is the skill being taught.
6. Homework must never serve a punitive or disciplinary function; learning, in school or at home, must always be a positive experience, rewarding for its own sake;
7. Homework across same grades/courses should be aligned and similar in frequency and level of challenge.

B. Assignment of Homework

1. To the extent possible, the number, frequency, and degree of difficulty of homework assignments should take into consideration a number of factors including, but not limited, to school sponsored after-school activities that

make a legitimate claim on pupils' time as well as, to the extent possible, the ability and needs of individual pupils.

2. Homework should be assigned with clarity so that pupils know precisely what is expected of them.
3. The following are guidelines for the amount of time homework assignments should take. Since each pupil works at a different pace, parents should use discretion as to how much time should be allotted to an assignment. If a pupil consistently has a difficult time finishing assignments, parents or pupils are encouraged to call or meet with the teacher.

Independent reading is an important component of a complete education for every pupil. The following guidelines do not include independent reading unless specifically assigned.

Kindergarten from time to time, simple assignments along with independent reading, approximately 10 minutes per night

Grades 1-2 approximately 20 minutes per night

Grades 3-5 approximately 30-45 minutes per night

Grade 6-8 approximately 45-90 minutes per night

Grades 9-12 approximately 30-45 minutes per academic course per night
(Some Honors and AP courses may have extended homework times.)

4. No new assignments should be given over major religious holidays and observances, school vacations, and holiday weekends and be due immediately upon return. Teachers should plan and announce homework assignments, especially long term assignments, well in advance so that pupils can adjust their schedules appropriately.
5. When appropriate, pupils should be encouraged or required to maintain a system for recording and managing homework.
6. A teacher may accede to a parent(s) or legal guardian(s) request for additional homework assignments for a pupil, provided the teacher, in his/her discretion, believes that the pupil will benefit from the assignment.

7. A pupil who has been absent from school will be given an opportunity to make up homework assignments, provided the assignments are completed during a period equal to the length of his/her absence. That period may be extended for the completion of long term assignments. If absent from school two or more days, pupils are responsible to get missed assignments from the office (if homework had been requested by a parent and not picked-up) or from their teacher directly.
8. The parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of an absent pupil may request homework assignments to be completed during the pupil's absence. Parents must inform teachers when extended absences are known in advance.

C. Evaluation of Homework

1. Assignments should be discussed, checked and when appropriate, corrected and returned to pupils prior to the due date of the next assignment, whereby feedback from the first assignment would help pupils in completing the next assignment to the best of their ability.
2. Teachers have the responsibility to communicate with parents of pupils who are falling behind in completing homework assignments.
3. Parents have the responsibility to monitor pupil progress on the parent portal.