

HOMework

Homework is an integral part of the educational experience of students Kindergarten through Grade 12. Properly used, it will provide opportunity for rote practice and drill, opportunities for independent research, pursuit of experiences or interests not available in the classroom and as an extension of classroom directed activities - all depending upon grade level and subject matter. The school recognizes that students must have time for home and family life and also the opportunity to explore other personal and social interests.

At the ELEMENTARY SCHOOL homework is divided into two parts. Kindergarten - Grade 2 homework consists mainly of make-up for assignments missed due to absenteeism or assignments not finished during the school hours. It may also include reading at home either by the student or reading with a parent. Other assignments may be sent home as deemed necessary by the teacher. Homework at this level shouldn't exceed 30-40 minutes daily 4-5 times a week.

Homework for Grades 3 - 4 consists of make-up assignments not finished during school hours. Other homework may include preparation for tests, book reports, occasional special assignments or projects. Homework at this level should not exceed 45 minutes per day.

At the MIDDLE SCHOOL homework expectations increase as students progress from Grades 5 - 8, in which the biggest change is seen as the student enters 7th Grade. Seventh Grade teachers must keep in mind that students are not only confronted with increased academic expectations, but that they are given opportunities for athletics and other activities. The following guidelines unique to the Middle School shall apply:

1. Length of homework will vary with the subject matter. Students should be able to complete homework in a subject area in approximately 30 minutes or less. This takes into consideration that students have five academic areas and that homework is not usually assigned every night in every class.
2. Teachers at the Middle School shall take activities into account. Teachers are requested to coordinate test and long-term project dates on a master calendar in the staff lounge.
3. During vacations no regular homework should be given. It's recommended not to give tests on Mondays or first days of the week, but at times it cannot be avoided.

At the HIGH SCHOOL, because of the complexity of classes and activities, homework assignments shall have a length and due date such that students participating in other school directed activities will have the time and opportunity to meet all of their obligations.

The following guidelines are given so that homework is not misused. These apply to the ELEMENTARY, MIDDLE, AND HIGH SCHOOLS.

1. Assignments shall take into consideration the availability of time and resources of the student when not in class.
2. Assignments shall not be given for punishment or as "busy work".
3. Assignments shall meet the objectives of the lesson and be consistent with the adopted curriculum.
4. Follow-up of homework shall be done quickly so that the student will know the accuracy and completeness of his/her work.
5. Make-up work, which includes home as well as class assignments, should be made up per the district policy, JED-R.

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CROSS REF.: JED, Student Absences and Excuses

JED-R, Student Excuses and Absences, Middle and High School