

INSTRUCTION

Homework – Grades K-12

The purpose of homework is to provide:

- Pre-learning opportunity to organize new information or build interest in an upcoming topic, or unit of study;
- Practice for applying new knowledge and skill;
- Revisit knowledge and concept for review; and
- Prepare for an upcoming assessment.

Guidelines:

- I. Homework, when assigned, will be incorporated as a meaningful component of the instructional program.
- II. To promote well-rounded students and to acknowledge and encourage learning in many forms outside of school, teachers are strongly encouraged to avoid assigning homework over weekends, and/or religious observances.
 - A. Homework will not be assigned over any holidays or breaks to include Thanksgiving break, the winter holiday, and spring break (dates determined by the School Division calendar).
 - B. When school is closed for inclement weather, homework assignments shall not be assigned.
 - C. During breaks, holidays, and/or inclement weather closings students may be working on previously assigned long-term projects, but no assignment or summative assessment shall be required to be completed within the first two days following the break.
 - D. These requirements are mandatory for all grade levels and all classes.
- III. Teachers at the middle and high school levels will communicate assignments with advance notice as often as possible to provide students with opportunities to manage priorities and their time.
- IV. At all levels, teachers assigning daily reading (both fiction and nonfiction) for homework is strongly encouraged. Expected reading time should be included when calculating total time amounts assigned for homework.
- V. Homework assignments will be based on the teacher's assessment of the student's abilities and instructional needs. Teachers will use professional judgment in assigning homework so that it may be completed in a reasonable amount of time. Teachers will communicate to students the amount of time they believe an assignment should take so

the teacher can monitor and adjust their practice accordingly. Guidelines to assist teachers with time allotments are as follows:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Daily Guidelines</u>
Kindergarten	Monday - Thursday	10 to 20 minutes Teachers encourage parents/guardians to either read to their child or listen to their child read. Teachers may also provide parents/guardians with activities to follow up their child's learning in other content areas.
First-Second	Monday – Thursday	10 to 20 minutes
Third-Fifth	Monday – Thursday	30 to 50 minutes
Sixth-Eighth	Monday – Thursday	60 to 80 minutes
Ninth-12th	Monday – Thursday	One and a half to two hours

At the middle and high school level the total daily amount of homework shall be divided out amongst all the student's classes for that day. Major homework assignments and projects should be coordinated between teachers and departments to avoid undue time requirements on students.

- VI. Teachers with assigned Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, or Advanced International Certificate of Education courses to teach are required to work with their program coordinator and/or supervising administrator to ensure their assigned work outside of the classroom is reasonable. This can be accomplished by reviewing and approving a detailed course syllabus. Students should have workloads that allow them to be well-rounded and engaged in positive non-academic pursuits in school and in the community.
- VII. Homework will be reviewed and returned with feedback from the teacher.
- VIII. Families who experience homework times that consistently exceed the guidelines in this regulation are strongly encouraged to discuss this concern with their child's teacher, school counselor, and/or principal.

- IX. Nothing in this regulation prohibits a teacher, on a case-by-case basis, from differentiating homework assignments for an individual student based on his/her specific needs. Modifications related to this provision should be made in partnership with the parent/guardian.
- X. Families and students wanting additional work for practice, reinforcement, or enrichment at home may make a request of their student's teacher.

The Associate Superintendent for Student Learning and Accountability (or designee) is responsible for implementing and monitoring this regulation.

This regulation and related policy shall be reviewed at least every five years and revised as needed.