

A. Homework and Independent Study Skills

~~Parent/guardian and teachers should be partners in the education of children. Their joint efforts in assigning and monitoring homework can provide an excellent opportunity to strengthen the home-school relationship and to help the student feel that home and school are working together for his/her best interest.~~

~~Homework shall be assigned and used as an integral part of the teaching/learning experience of students. Specific homework assignments shall be made by the teacher, provided each school may adopt guidelines to assure balance in homework assigned to each student. The type of homework assignment and the time to do such homework should give consideration to the grade level or subject area. As general guidelines, homework for Grades 1-3 should average from 30-45 minutes per day, for Grades 4-6, 45-90 minutes per day, for Grades 7-12, 1-2 1/2 hours per day. As a general rule, homework is rarely given to kindergarten students.~~

~~Homework should be assigned regularly, clearly stated, regularly collected, checked and returned to students. Each teacher should advise students how and the extent to which homework will be used in determining final grades. To develop students' independent study skills the teacher should:~~

- ~~1. Discuss the skills needed to accomplish homework assignments;~~
- ~~2. Demonstrate a simple step-by-step process of completing a homework assignment;~~
- ~~3. Model the techniques of listening, following instructions, note-taking, reading for comprehension, preparing papers and locating materials in the library;~~
- ~~4. Have students demonstrate their knowledge of independent study skills; and~~
- ~~5. Teach the students how to organize materials and to work independently.~~

Homework should be an integral part of the instructional program and a means by which students are provided extended time to master learning concepts and objectives. Homework should be a positive experience and provide students the opportunity to:

- Reinforce the concepts taught in class and/or lesson preparation.
 - Manage learning time away from the school setting.
 - Involve other adults in helping students learn.
 - Inform the parents of the learning activities provided during the school day.
 - Develop independent study habits, skills, and responsibilities.
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- Division of average amounts of homework per week shall be left to the discretion of the building principal and classroom teacher.
 - Inter-departmental planning and coordination shall be necessary for long-range assignments such as research papers, science projects, television assignments, etc.

- For Grades K-5, homework will not be used as a grade to help determine the final grade.
 - K-3 homework should be no more than 30 minutes per day
 - 4-5 homework should be no more than 45 minutes per day
- For Grades 6-12, each teacher should advise students how and the extent to which homework will be used in determining final grades.

Homework is considered to be part of the educational program of the District. Assignments shall be an extension of the teaching/learning experience that promotes the student's educational development. As an extension of the classroom, homework must be planned and organized and should be viewed by the students as purposeful.

Teachers should be aware of the potential problem students may have completing assignments from multiple teachers and vary the amount of homework they give from day to day.