

HOMEWORK

All students should use their "Binder Reminder" to record homework assignments daily.

1. It is inappropriate to assign homework as a punishment.
2. Homework assignments should be directly related to classroom work.
3. Endless copying of materials should be discouraged.
4. Homework must be assigned only in those areas which have been taught and learned sufficiently so that the student does the work correctly rather than reinforce errors or incorrect work. New concepts should not be introduced as homework. Homework must be clearly understood by the students before they leave the classroom.
5. Assignments should be thoroughly explained and clearly understood, and students should recognize when they are due.
6. Homework should be for the purpose of reinforcing, extending, enriching, and/or strengthening skills.
7. The assignments should be reasonable.
8. Assignments should not be additional burden to the teachers but of assistance in making an assessment of the student's overall performance.
9. Homework is an important resource in helping students to learn. quality. Quantity should not be stressed.
10. Special-interest projects may be an outgrowth of classroom instruction or may extend and enrich specific interests.
11. Books and other materials required for assignments should be provided.
12. It is advisable for the teacher to perform the assignment occasionally to verify the actual amount of time necessary for the students to complete the homework.
13. Assignments should be representative of the school and of the quality of the instructional program.

Return of Homework Assignments

When students return homework, the teacher should consider the following:

1. Homework assignments, once completed, deserve recognition as an indication of the student's progress through application to classroom activities.
2. Some teachers place an "OK" or their initials at the top of returned work to indicate they have read the material.
3. Periodically returned work might be added to the student's homework folder or portfolio for parent review.
4. Certain homework assignments may require only acknowledgment while other assignments may require correcting.
5. Simple correcting techniques involving a minimum amount of teaching time is recommended. These techniques may include self-checking by pupils, group

checking, or teacher checking.

6. Homework may be checked during a special time or during appropriate instruction.
7. The teacher should review all assignments periodically and inform parents when class members repeatedly fail to return or complete assignments.

Parent/Guardian Participation

Parent/guardian should be informed of homework schedules, including date given and time allowance. They should also understand the level of independent work expected of the student and the parental help and involvement required. They should be aware of materials and conditions which should be provided for the student at home, if possible; and, occasionally, acknowledge the extent of student success in homework.

Marking Practices

When homework is assigned to help students maintain and improve their learning, the results are reflected in student achievement. In general, however, subject marks recorded on report cards are based on accomplishment in the classroom rather than on quantity and quality of returned homework. Failure to return assignments is reflected in marks for Work Habits recorded on the report card, rather than as part of the student's academic letter grade.

Suggested Schedule

School staff, parents, and other community members vary in their points of view as to what is considered an appropriate length of time for homework assignments. The following guidelines are suggested for use by schools in developing a schedule for homework:

Grade 6 1/2 to 1 hour per day, 4 days per week

Grade 7 1 hour to 1 1/2 hours per day, 4 days per week

Grade 8 1 1/2 to 2 hours per day, 4 days per week

Teams should get together to plan homework activities and tests so that students are not overly burdened on any given night.

It is suggested that no homework be assigned on weekends or holidays.