

HOMEWORK

Board recognizes that education research has shown a positive correlation between meaningful and purposeful homework and student achievement. Homework offers an opportunity to deepen understanding of material, practice new skills, and to promote critical thinking and creativity, effective study habits, individual initiative, self-discipline and responsibility. Homework helps inform parents of their child's educational progress and encourages communication between school and home. The Board believes that reasonable, educationally sound, relevant and regular outside-of-class homework assignments are an important part of the total educational program.

The Board expects that homework will be assigned accordance with the following principles:

- A. Homework should be viewed as a means of extending learning opportunities beyond the school day.
- B. Meaningful, purposeful homework that is directly related to the curriculum produces the strongest achievement gains.
- C. Meaningful homework helps students develop goal setting, self-discipline, time management and organizational skills.
- D. Homework offers an opportunity for parent involvement and monitoring their child's educational progress.
- E. Homework provides teachers with additional opportunities for assessing student progress and determining instructional needs.
- F. Immediate, specific feedback must be given to students in order for homework to be effective in enhancing student learning.
- G. Homework must be realistic in length and difficulty given the students' abilities to work independently.
- H. Homework should emphasize quality rather than quantity.
- I. The amount of homework assigned should be gradually increased from grade to grade. As a child advances through school, it is reasonable to expect that the amount of homework can be increased using the following guidelines based on the National Teachers Association recommendations:

<u>Grades Pre-K -K</u>	10-15 minutes three times a week;
<u>Grades 1-2</u>	10-20 minutes, four nights a week;
<u>Grades 3-4:</u>	30-40 minutes, four nights a week;
<u>Grades 5-6:</u>	40-60 minutes, four nights a week;
<u>Grades 7-8:</u>	1.5-2 hours, four or five nights a week; and
<u>Grades 9-12:</u>	1.5-2.5 hours, five nights a week.

These guidelines are for all subjects combined.

The Board encourages professional staff at each grade level and/or academic department to work together to achieve consistency in assignment and assessment of homework. The building principal, in consultation with professional staff, may develop homework guidelines to achieve this goal.

Adopted: November 3, 2005

Revised: November 4, 2013