

In according to Board of Education Policy 5113-R, the following regulations for student attendance have been adopted:

The educational program offered by this District is predicated on the presence of the student and requires continuity of instruction and classroom participation.

If a student is absent for more than 20 consecutive days, for reasons other than illness, they will be removed from the school roll. Registration will be required to re-enter school and there can be no guarantee that the student will be able to return to the same classroom. All decisions of reassignment will be based upon class size and available space. Students absent for long periods of time (due to family travel, etc.) will have to meet the proficiency criteria for the grade level they are returning to.

Schoolwork cannot be provided to students who are leaving on extended leaves.

HOMEWORK:

The Board of Education adopted the following policy regarding homework on May 28, 1992 (File code: 6154 - R):

Homework Practices, Grades 1 - 8

Guidelines:

1. Homework will serve a purpose and reinforce learning.
2. Homework will be assigned regularly with the amount increasing in relationship to grade level and the ability of the student.
3. Homework will be a meaningful extension of classroom experience.
4. Homework assignments must be understood by the children.
5. Homework may serve as an enrichment or supplementary experience if given on an individual or small group basis.
6. Homework assignments will be given with careful consideration to the physical and emotional needs of students.
7. Homework assignments must be planned in relationship to the supply of books, reference materials, etc., needed to complete the assignments (materials available in either the schools, homes or local libraries).

Role of participants:

Teachers:

It is the responsibility of the teacher to:

1. Implement homework practices that are consistent with the Board of Education policy.
2. Make the assignment clear to all students by explaining exactly what is to be done, when it is due, and its purpose.
3. Relate the homework to class work. Students should understand the relationship between what is to be done for homework and what has been done in class.
4. Vary the assignment according to the needs of each student rather than assigning a blanket task for all.
5. Make sure the students have the materials they need to do the work or know where to get them.
6. Check to see that homework assignments are completed and evaluate all homework assignments, giving specific comments where appropriate.
7. Plan and implement a procedure for make-up assignments.
8. Inform parents when students are not meeting homework obligations.

Students:

Students must be helped to share responsibility for their own academic progress. It is the responsibility of the students to:

1. Keep a record of all homework assignments.
2. Obtain the assignments in the event of absence.
3. Complete all homework assignments on time.
4. Communicate to teachers any problems encountered with homework.
5. Read, study or work on ongoing projects every weeknight when no other homework assignment is given.

Parents:

Inherent in the concept of homework is the fact that each parent must play an active role in helping the child accept his/her responsibilities regarding homework. It is the responsibility of the parent to:

1. Provide a suitable location and environment for homework.
2. Provide for adequate, reserved time for homework each day.
3. Monitor whether or not the child is meeting his/her homework responsibilities.
4. Assist, support and encourage the child, without "taking over" or doing the work for the child.
5. Communicate with school to account for any missed assignment, particularly if there was a good reason for the child not completing the assigned work.
6. Make time to discuss with the child a broad range of topics, including school, friends, books, TV shows and current events.

Time:

One of the most difficult facets of homework to judge is the element of time. Generally speaking, the following should be considered:

1. Students vary in their ability to complete homework based upon their developmental readiness, learning style, and study and work habits; thus, the length of time for a singular assignment will vary among pupils in the same class. This is an important consideration since the child who will need a greater length of time usually is the one least likely to devote the necessary time.
2. It is important for teachers to use their understanding of early childhood development when providing assignments for kindergarten children. Teachers should be encouraging parents to read with their child on a daily basis. In addition, there may be other extension activities from the classroom lessons that can be reinforced through homework. Providing home-work three times a week for an average range of 10 to 20 minutes is a general guideline that the teacher may follow.
3. First grade teachers may also use the same practice of kindergarten teachers, however, there should be a greater emphasis on literacy development as children become emergent readers and writers. The time period for homework can be extended to no greater than 30 minutes per day to reinforce the skills and concepts in which students need to become proficient.
4. Beginning in second grade a child should begin experiencing regular, short-length homework and some longer-range assignments. It is recommended that

homework not exceed one hour and that these extension activities be given on a daily basis.

5. Students in third and fourth grades should also receive daily homework assignments based upon the curriculum and the established proficiencies from our curriculum guides. Homework time for children in third grade should be between one hour and one hour fifteen minutes. As children progress into fourth grade, homework should take no longer than one and one half hours.
6. No homework should be assigned prior to holidays or due on the first day of return from a holiday.
7. Noncompliance should be reported to parents immediately to gain their support.