

Instruction

Homework

The responsibility of the school district to educate the student is carried out by the teachers through effective classroom instruction and the careful delegation of independent study. It is important for the student to be taught the concepts related to the subject area and how to study in school before he/she is given work to do at home. There is, therefore, a steady increase in the amount of homework expected of students from the elementary grades through high school.

Worthwhile homework benefits students. Homework also affords the parent an opportunity to observe his/her child's academic progress. Homework should be an extension of the class lesson, be clearly understood by students, be well planned and meaningful, and be evaluated with feedback provided to the students.

Basically, there are three types of homework:

1. Practice of Skills

Practice provides students with the opportunity to reinforce and master specific skills presented in class and to review content.

2. Preparation for Future Classes

Prepares students for the next class meeting, and may include reading, library research, or other information-gathering activities.

3. Extension of Classwork

Extension focuses on individual application, research, and study; takes students beyond work covered in class.

Guidelines for time required for homework at each level (elementary, middle, high school) will take into consideration the needs of the students. Teachers shall assign homework according to administrative regulations.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-221 Boards of Education to prescribe rules, policies and procedures.

Policy adopted: October 4, 2004

STAFFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Stafford, Connecticut

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In recognition of the developmental difference among students at different grade levels, the following are guidelines relative to homework:

Grade	Time Value
K	15-20 minutes – once or twice a week and 10-15 minutes reading 5x/week
1	15-20 minutes – once or twice a week and 10-15 minutes reading 5x/week
2	15-20 minutes – once or twice a week and 15 minutes reading each night
3	15-20 minutes – three or four times a week and 15 minutes reading each night
4	30 minutes – three or four times a week and 15-20 minutes reading each night
5	30 minutes – three or four times a week and 15-20 minutes reading each night
6-8	5-10 hours per week- time will vary depending on courses
9-12	8-15 hours per week – time will vary depending on courses

The length and frequency of individual homework assignments will be determined by the developmental stage, 504 Plan or special needs of the students, including their ability level and by the resources available in homes.

Teacher Responsibility and Goals

1. At the beginning of the school year, a written copy of the homework policy will be issued to parents, students, and staff through the student and faculty handbooks.
2. Homework assignments will be reviewed by teachers and incorporated into the student's overall grade.
3. Teachers will provide feedback to students about homework assignments in a timely manner.
4. The teacher will provide explanations about the expectations and deadlines for homework assignments.
5. Teachers will design homework assignments which will support the learning in the classroom. Homework will not be used to teach complex skills and material. Based upon a student's 504 Plan or IEP, there may be accommodations or modifications.
6. Teachers will communicate with parents the status of their child's homework completion in a timely manner.

Instruction

Homework (continued)

Student Responsibility and Goals

1. The student will be responsible for recording homework assignments and making up work missed when absent within the prescribed time period as defined by the teacher.
2. The student will understand that homework will affect the course grade.
3. The student will complete homework neatly and in a manner specified by the teacher. These elements may affect the grade.
4. The student will plan enough time to complete all homework assignments.
5. The student will assume the responsibility for obtaining the proper resources and materials to complete homework assignments.

Parent Responsibility and Goals

1. Parents should arrange a quiet, suitable place with adequate work space for their child to work.
2. Parents should encourage their child to complete homework assignments.
3. Parents should demonstrate discretion concerning the amount of assistance given to their child relative to homework.
4. Parents should communicate with the teacher if their child is having difficulty with homework.