

**K-6 HOMEWORK/MAKEUP WORK****Homework**

The Governing Board recognizes that homework influences students' ability to meet the district's academic standards when it is relevant and meaningful. The Board expects the outcome of homework to extend classroom instruction, promote responsibility and develop lifelong learning habits.

*(cf. 6011 – Academic Standards)*

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that administrators and teachers implement the homework guidelines at each school site. As needed, teachers may receive training in designing relevant, challenging and meaningful homework assignments that reinforce classroom learning objectives. Teacher expectations related to homework may be addressed in their evaluations.

*(cf. 4115 – Evaluation/Supervision)*

*(cf. 4131 – Staff Development)*

To be effective, homework assignments should reinforce classroom learning objectives, providing independent practice of previously learned skills or information. Independent practice can consist of an extension of classroom activities such as:

1. reasonable number of math problems
2. reading at an independent level
3. completion of a classroom project
4. research on topics presented in class
5. writing activities

**Makeup Work**

Students shall be given the opportunity to make up school work missed because of an excused absence and shall receive full credit for work turned in according to a reasonable makeup schedule. (Education Code 48205)

*(cf. 5113 - Absences and Excuses)*

*(cf. 5121.1 – K-6 Evaluation of Student Achievement)*

Students who miss school work because of unexcused absences may be given the opportunity to make up missed work for full or reduced credit. Teachers shall assign such makeup work as necessary to ensure academic progress, not as a punitive measure.

Teachers may require a suspended student to complete any assignments and assessments missed during suspension. (Education Code 48913)

*Legal Reference: (see next page)*

**K –6 HOMEWORK/MAKEUP WORK** (continued)

*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

48205 Absences for personal reasons

48913 Completion of work missed by suspended pupil

58700 Tutoring and homework assistance program; summer school apportionment credit

*Management Resources:*

SEE POLICIES

*Parent Involvement in the Education of Their Children, 1994*

*Policy Statement on Homework, 1995*

## **K-6 HOMEWORK/MAKEUP WORK**

### **Homework Guidelines**

The principal and staff at each school review and implement the district homework guidelines for the assignment of homework and describes the responsibilities of students, staff and parents/guardians. The guidelines are as follows:

For each grade level, the amount of time that students shall be expected to spend on homework is based on the following recommendations:

#### Recommended Time:

The Governing Board recognizes that literacy activities outside the classroom directly correlate with student achievement and attainment of academic standards. In order to achieve this goal, it is recommended that time outside the instructional day should be spent in literacy activities in the following manner:

- K-2 Maximum of 20 minutes per day
- 3-4 Maximum of 30 minutes per day
- 5-6 Maximum of 45 minutes per day

These reading activities may include, but are not limited to, read alouds, shared reading, independent reading and environmental print.

In addition to the literacy practice above, other content areas can and should be included in homework time based on the following recommendations:

- K Up to 10 minutes per day
- 1 UP to 15 minutes per day
- 2 Up to 20 minutes per day
- 3-4 Up to 25 minutes per day
- 5-6 Up to 30 minutes per day

### **Parental Involvement**

The Governing Board recognizes that parents/guardians are their children's first and most influential teachers and that continued parental involvement in the education of children contributes greatly to student achievement and a positive school environment.

In order to engage parents/guardians positively in their children's education, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that staff members at each school inform parents/guardians that they can directly affect the success of their children's learning and provide them techniques and strategies that they may use to improve their children's academic success and help their children in learning at home.

**K-6 HOMEWORK/MAKEUP WORK** (continued)

Initiate consistent and effective two-way communication between the home and school so that parents/guardians may know when and how to help their children in support of classroom learning activities

**Considerations for Homework Assignments**

1. The assignment should extend in some way skills being developed in the classroom.
2. The assignments should be tailored to the student's achievement and maturity level and completed by the student with as little assistance as possible. The assignment should consider:
  - a. a student's competency levels and strategies for differentiation based on student knowledge base
  - b. techniques that will be taught to help students allocate their time wisely , meet their deadlines and develop good personal study habits
  - c. the availability of resources
3. The assignment must be of value – not simply “busy work”.
4. The assignment should require some independent thinking on the part of the student.
5. The assignment should reinforce positive attitudes toward learning.
6. Homework should never be assigned as a measure of punishment.
7. The assignment, whenever possible, should relate to the student's interests.

**Considerations for Makeup Work**

1. Makeup opportunities should be made available for both excused and unexcused absences.
2. For excused absences, students should be provided up to 3 (three) weeks.
3. For unexcused absences, students should be provided a reasonable amount of time necessary to ensure academics progress.

**Instruction**

AR 6154.1(c)

**K-6 HOMEWORK/MAKEUP WORK** (continued)

4. Students with unexcused absences should not be given makeup work as a punitive measure.
5. It is appropriate for students who have been suspended to complete any assignments or tests missed during suspension.