File: IKB

HOMEWORK

The term "homework" refers to an assignment to be prepared during a period of supervised study in class or outside of class.

The purposes of homework are to improve the learning processes, to aid in the mastery of skills, and to create and stimulate interest on the part of the student.

Homework is a learning activity which should increase in complexity with the maturity of the student. With increased maturity, learning should become an independent activity. This should be established through consistent assignments which encourage students to investigate for themselves and to work independently as well as with others.

Homework assignments should be consistent in terms of the amount given each day and the time required for each assignment so that a pattern of meaningful homework can be established by the teacher and/or the student. If homework assignments are posted online, then these assignments must be shared/discussed in class the same day that the assignments are posted on line. Assignments must be due during the period in which the class meets.

The information for any homework assignment should be clear and specific so that the student can complete the assignment.

Homework assignments should take into consideration individual differences of students such as health, ability, conditions at home, and educational resources at home. Homework should not require the use of reference materials not readily available in most homes, school libraries, or the public library, and should require the use of those materials only when the student has had instruction in the use of them. Assignments cannot require students to spend money beyond the basic school supplies, unless there is financial help available for students. Additionally, extra credit assignments cannot require extra time spent at school. Teachers cannot hold meetings outside of class time that student can attend for extra credit and teachers also may not ask students to bring in gifts or classroom supplies for extra credit.

Teachers assigning homework over a school vacation period (Thanksgiving Break, Winter Break, February Break and April Break) must give adequate time either before or after the vacation period for the work to be completed. One semester AP classes are exempt from this provision.

Homework may not be assigned or collected on snow days. This provision, however, should not be construed to prohibit the Superintendent of Schools from approving the use of "blizzard bags" in the event of extended inclement weather.

There are many other learning activities in the life of a student besides homework. Such things as participating in school activities, pursuing cultural interests, participating in family living, and exploring personal interests should be considered by teachers when planning consistent assignments. Homework is not to be used as a form of punishment under any circumstances.

Principals may promulgate school-based rules regarding homework that are consistent with this policy.

Adopted: January 17, 2023