REGULATION Weehawken
School District
Section: Program
2330. HOMEWORK
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A. Content of Homework

1. Homework should be a thoughtfully planned as a research-based component of the curriculum, appropriately extending and reinforcing the learning experience of the school;

2. Homework should be personalized for children by providing practice towards the mastery of reading, comprehension, and mathematical reasoning, as well as, an opportunity to remediate areas of weakness.

3. Homework should help develop the pupil's responsibility and provide an opportunity for the exercise of independent work and judgment;

4. Homework assignments should not require extensive copy work.

5. Homework must never serve a punitive or disciplinary function; learning, in school or at home, must always be a positive experience, rewarding for its own sake.

B. Assignment of Homework

1. The number, frequency, and degree of difficulty of homework assignments should be based on the academic grade level of the students ability and needs of the pupil and take into account other activities such as family time that make a legitimate claim on the pupil's time;

2. Homework must be clearly assigned in advance and its product carefully evaluated and that feedback should be reported to the pupil and the parent(s) or legal guardian(s);

3. Teachers must recognize the role of parent(s) or legal guardian(s) and foster positive relationships via effectively communicating, regarding homework to parent(s) or legal guardian(s).

Teachers must observe the following District guidelines for the introduction and assignment of homework. Total time allotments include all aspects of the homework

assignments -- outside of the classroom reading, research, studying, and all other learning activities.

a. Kindergarten and Grade 1: Reading and/or mathematics practice not to exceed 10 total minutes per night. No homework shall be assigned over holidays and weekends. Homework should be based on the academic grade level of the students, ability and needs of the pupil and take into account other activities, such as family time, that make a legitimate claim on the pupil's time;

b. Grades 2: Reading and/or mathematics practice not to exceed 20 total minutes per night. No homework shall be assigned over holidays and weekends. Homework should be based on the academic grade level of the students, ability and needs of the pupil and take into account other activities, such as family time, that make a legitimate claim on the pupil's time;

c. Grades 3: Reading and/or mathematics practice not to exceed 30 total minutes per night. No homework shall be assigned over holidays and weekends. Homework should be based on the academic grade level of the students, ability and needs of the pupil and take into account other activities, such as family time, that make a legitimate claim on the pupil's time;

d. Grades 4, 5, and 6: Homework should be regularly scheduled, should require no more than 45 total minutes total minutes per night. No homework shall be assigned over holidays and weekends. Homework should be based on the academic grade level of the students, ability and needs of the pupil and take into account other activities such as family time that make a legitimate claim on the pupil's time;

e. Grades 7 – 8: Homework should be regularly scheduled, should require no more than 60 total minutes total minutes per night. No homework shall be assigned over holidays and weekends. Homework should be based on the academic grade level of the students, ability and needs of the pupil and take into account other activities such as family time that make a legitimate claim on the pupil's time; Whenever possible the due date of reading assignments, written assignments and

assessments that require preparation and studying must be made available at least three days in advance to students. Notification of long term assignments and major projects must be provided to students at least a week in advance of the due date;

f. Grades 9-12: Homework should be based the academic course grade level of the students, ability and needs of the pupil and take into account other activities such as family time that make a legitimate claim on the pupil's time. The due date of reading assignments, written assignments and assessments that require preparation and studying must be made available at least three days in advance to students. Notification of long term assignments and major projects must be provided to students at least a week in advance of the due date.

4. Teachers are encouraged to utilize tools such as Google Classroom, Edlio, Google Sites and/or Google Calendar to communicate homework assignments to students and parents or legal guardians.

5. A teacher may accede to a parent or legal guardian’s request for additional homework assignments for a pupil, provided the teacher, in his/her discretion, believes that the pupil will benefit from the assignment.

6. A pupil who has been absent from school will be given an opportunity to make up homework assignments within a reasonable timeframe.

7. The parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of an absent pupil may request homework assignments to be completed during the pupil's absence. Whenever possible Teachers are expected to comply with any such requests.

8. Teachers should be judicious when assigning homework and avoid assignments that require technology and/or resources that are not readily available to every household.

C. Evaluation of Homework

1. All homework must be evaluated by the teacher and the teacher's feedback must be communicated to the pupil. Homework is not a valid learning activity if the pupil receives no acknowledgment of his/her work and no feedback.

2. Teachers should insist on high standards of quality in homework, however they must operative in consideration of student’s individual learning needs and home life.

D. Checklist for Teachers

Teachers should be able to answer affirmatively the following questions about a homework assignment.

1. Does the homework promote rigor?

2. Does the homework promote relevance?

3. Does the homework promote relationships?

4. Has the assignment been communicated to students and parents as per the District guidelines for notification of homework assignments?

5. Has the class been thoughtfully prepared for the homework assignment?

6. Is the work personalized and/or differentiated to meet individual needs, interests, and capacities?

7. Is the assignment compliant with the District's guidelines for grade-level frequency and length of assignment?

8. Will the homework be evaluated so as to provide formative feedback?

9. Will the homework be integrated into daily in-school activities and lessons?

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