

BROOKLIN SCHOOL COMMITTEE

POLICY NUMBER: 9.04

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HOMEWORK

The Brooklin School Committee recognizes that education research has shown a positive correlation between meaningful and purposeful homework and student achievement. Homework offers an opportunity to deepen understanding of material, practice new skills, and promote critical thinking, creativity and positive study habits for academic growth. Homework helps inform parents of their child's educational progress and encourages communication between school and home. The School Committee believes that reasonable, educationally sound, relevant and regular outside-of-class homework assignments are an important part of the total educational program.

The School Committee directs the Superintendent, or designee, to work with the professional staff to develop grade level homework procedures that will achieve consistency in assignment and assessment of homework aligned with the guidelines provided below.

- A. Homework should be viewed as a means of extending learning opportunities beyond the school day.
- B. Meaningful, purposeful homework that is directly related to the adopted Brooklin School curriculum produces the strongest achievement gains.
- C. Meaningful homework helps students develop goal setting, self-discipline, time management and organizational skills.
- D. Homework offers an opportunity for parent involvement and monitoring their child's educational progress.
- E. Homework provides teachers with additional opportunities for assessing student progress and determining instructional needs.
- F. Specific feedback, inclusive of grading for completion and accuracy, shall be given to students in order for homework to be effective in enhancing student learning.
- G. Homework must be realistic in length and difficulty given the students' abilities to work independently within the standards outlined in the Brooklin School Curriculum.
- H. Homework should emphasize quality rather than quantity.
- I. The amount of homework assigned should be gradually increased from grade to grade and based on the student's learning needs.

The School Committee expects that grade level homework procedures will be reviewed annually by the Brooklin School Staff and included in the Student-Family Handbook.

Legal Reference: CH. 125.23, B, 5, 1 (Maine Dept. of Ed. Rule)