

HOMEWORK

The Board of Trustees recognizes the value of relevant homework that contributes to building student responsibility, self-discipline and life-long learning habits. Homework can support the district's academic standards and goals for student achievement if it: 1) is a meaningful, purposeful activity that deepens and/or extends learning with intent; 2) invites and provides the opportunity to creatively apply learning to real world and personalized contexts; 3) provides for differentiated practice with immediate feedback on critical foundational skills; and 4) is easy to access and supports healthy life/school balance.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that administrators and teachers develop and implement an effective plan for academic instruction at each grade level. This may include site agreements, procedures, and practices associated with homework. As needed, teachers may receive training in designing relevant, challenging and meaningful homework assignments that reinforce classroom learning objectives. The Board expects teachers at all grade levels to use parents/guardians as supporting resources.

Makeup Work

Students shall be expected to complete assignments and tests missed during an excused absence that can reasonably be provided. The teacher of any class from which a student has an excused absence shall determine, pursuant to regulations of the Board, what assignments the student shall make up and in what period of time the student shall complete such assignments. Tests and assignments may be the same as those missed, or shall be reasonably equivalent or accommodated as set forth in the Education Code. Students will be expected to complete assignments missed or due during their absence within the timeframe equal to the length of the absence, or up to a 10-day maximum. If absences or makeup work timelines occur during grading periods, an incomplete will be given until such time as the work is complete and credit can be given. Incompletes do not count in the calculation of Grade Point Average. Satisfactory completion within the required time period will be eligible for full credit. If a student is absent on the day that an assignment is due, the assignment must be turned in on a date mutually agreed upon by the teacher and student. If a student is absent on the day of a test, the test must be taken within a mutually agreed upon timeframe between the teacher and student to receive credit.

Unexcused Absences

Unexcused absences are those which do not come under any of the definitions of excused absences. Students who have unexcused absences may not be able to make up work. Such absences may be reflected in the student's final grade. Students who are absent for less than five days should follow the procedures for excused absences. Students with unexcused absences of five to ten consecutive days should apply for an independent study agreement, three school days prior to the onset of the unexcused absence.

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School-Site Homework Plan

The principal and staff at each school shall develop and regularly review a school-site homework plan which includes guidelines for the assignment of homework, including time spent on homework and quality of homework assignments, and describing the responsibilities of students, staff and parents/guardians. The plan shall identify all of the following:

1. The overarching philosophy regarding homework
2. Grade level expectations
3. The amount of time that students shall be expected to spend on homework
4. The extent to which homework assignments shall involve participation by parents/guardians
5. The means by which parents/guardians shall be informed about:
 - a. Homework expectations, including how homework informs progress
 - b. How homework relates to the student's grades or progress marks
 - c. How best to help their children
6. The means by which teachers shall coordinate assignments so that students do not receive an overload of homework

Makeup Work

The Superintendent or designee shall notify parents/guardians that no student may have his/her grade reduced or lose academic credit for any excused absence when missed assignments and tests are satisfactorily completed within a reasonable period of time. Such notification shall include the full text of Education Code 48205. (Education Code 48980)
The teacher of any class from which a student is suspended may require the student to complete any assignments and tests missed during the suspension. (Education Code 48913)