

Instruction

Homework/Makeup Work

Homework

Homework is a valuable segment of instructional time, not just because it can extend the quantity of time, but because of the unique quality of time spent under the students' own control. For all of the teaching supervision and help we give to our students, learning is, in the end, a private experience. Homework provides a concluding activity for the skills and knowledge taught in the classroom. It also lays the foundation for students taking responsibility for their own learning. Because of this special place homework has in the development of our students' habits and attitudes toward learning, we will make every effort for it to be meaningful to the student.

Homework has a range and variety of purposes related to skills learning and knowledge acquisition. As our students learn new skills, homework will be used for independent practice and application in a variety of contexts to foster learning. District students will receive assignments in all curricular areas on a regular basis. The average time spent by our students should be no more than 60 minutes daily.

Homework, as with everything else, must be approved with a team concept. Parents, students and school working together as a cohesive unit to ensure a positive school experience for (y)our children.

Classtime shall be conserved for learning activities which benefit most from teacher interaction: homework shall be used for work which the student is most able to do independently:

1. Homework shall reinforce and extend classwork.
2. Homework assignments shall be interesting and motivating.
3. Students shall be assigned homework they can complete successfully.
4. Before students are assigned independent practice and application as homework, they shall first have had guided practice and application with supervision and feedback.
5. The students shall explore selected topics in depth as homework projects, completed over a period of time. The proportion of learning time allocated to such projects and the average length of time per project shall increase from lower to upper grade levels.

Homework/Makeup Work (continued)

6. Reading, writing and thinking experiences in literature, history, science and fine arts shall be extended through homework.
7. Students shall receive prompt and informative feedback on completed assignments, including reteaching, as needed.

Makeup Work

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

(cf. 6182 - Opportunity School/Class/Program)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

48205 Absences for personal reasons

48913 Completion of work missed by suspended pupil

Policy
adopted: November, 1990

NORRIS SCHOOL DISTRICT
Bakersfield, California