

HOMEWORK

The School Board recognizes the importance of assigning meaningful and quality homework to students.

Research indicates that schools in which homework is routinely assigned and assessed tend to have higher achieving students. Homework fosters student achievement, independence, and responsibility and serves as a vital link between school and home. Therefore, it is the policy of Broward County Schools that meaningful and quality homework is required at all grade levels in all schools.

Authority: F.S. 230.22 (1) (2)

Policy Adopted: 2/12/70;

Policy Amended: 9/5/74; Amended Policy Approved: 9/15/98

Amended Policy Approved: 2/18/09

RULES:**1. DEFINITION:**

Homework is defined as meaningful and quality work assigned to students that is intended to be completed during non-instructional hours.

2. PURPOSE:**Homework should:**

- a. Reinforce principles, skills, concepts, and information taught in the classroom.
- b. Be meaningful and appropriate to the ability and instructional level of students.
- c. Support creative, logical, critical and analytical thinking.
- d. Foster self-discipline, self motivation and the wise and orderly use of time.
- e. Be adequately explained by teachers and clearly understood by parents.

Note: Assignments that require going to the public library will include a weekend to accommodate working families.

3. RESPONSIBILITIES:**Administrators shall:**

- a. Communicate SBBC policy in regards to homework and its appropriateness to parents, teacher and students.
- b. Provide teachers the time for professional development when utilizing homework as a strategy for learning.
- c. Monitor the effective use of homework given by teachers.
- d. Support and allow time for the collaboration among teachers, students, and parents in the effective implementation of the homework policy.
- e. Provide teachers with access to all essential tools.

Teachers shall:

- a. Set clear standards and expectations for the quality of work based on the needs of students.
- b. Create an effective system for communicating homework guidelines for parents and students.
- c. Review homework and provide timely and appropriate feedback regarding the completion of assignments as a step toward mastery of standards.
- d. Coordinate projects so that all students have access to research and resource materials including textbooks and digital tools such as flash drives, electronic textbooks and websites.
- e. Assign homework that is academically challenging and developmentally appropriate to the student's level of competence.
- f. Design quality homework, which is relevant to the curriculum and/or tied to mastery.
- g. Allow for varied learning styles by including choices in types of assignments when possible.
- h. Provide students with a reasonable estimate of the amount of time necessary to complete each homework assignment.
- i. Provide specific written explanation, rubric or model, of long term assignments so that the requirements, expectations and timelines are clearly understood by the students.
- j. Provide students the opportunity to ask questions to clarify assignments before leaving class.
- k. Evaluate group projects based upon a predefined rubric which includes individual student participation and group process and allow time in class for individuals and groups to work on projects.
- l. Collaborate between teachers at the secondary level regarding when homework would be assigned. There should be a balance of projects so they are not assigned at the same time.
- m. Be considerate when assigning homework due the day after a religious holiday and district assigned school breaks and weekends.

- n. Ensure that students receive feedback on each assignment so that students comprehend their level of understanding of the learning.
- o. Create an effective mechanism or system to communicate homework assignments. If appropriate and accessible place homework assignments on the teacher's website for further clarification.
- p. Suggest time limits on homework at the elementary level.
- q. Modifications for ESE and ESOL students will be addressed through the IEP or the student's PMP.

Students shall:

- a. Understand that homework is part of the course requirement.
- b. Ask questions to clarify homework assignments before leaving class.
- c. Complete and submit homework assignments by the due date.
- d. Complete all assignments honestly in accordance with the teacher's directions.

Parents shall:

- a. Provide a suitable environment for homework.
- b. Remind students that homework is their responsibility.
- c. Guide or assist in homework when unusual difficulties arise but never do the homework for their child.
- d. Encourage students to ask their teacher(s) clarifying questions concerning their homework.
- e. Communicate with the teacher(s).
- f. Monitor activities so that sufficient time is provided for homework.
- g. Prohibit cheating, plagiarism and any other dishonest practices in the completion of homework.

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