

HOMework

Effective homework can reinforce what is taught in the classroom, improve student performance, help students develop good study habits, encourage self-discipline and responsibility, and provide an important day-to-day link between home and school. For homework to be effective, assignments need to have a definite purpose and further the goals of students' educational program. The major academic purposes of homework are to help students:

- review and practice what has been taught; and
- get ready for the next day's class.

Homework must be judiciously made in full consideration of the following guidelines:

1. Students need to be informed of exactly what is assigned (book page, questions, numbers, etc.) and due date.
2. All homework shall be evaluated, and credited.
3. The following timelines are intended to be used as a guide for each grade, based on an "average" student's ability level. Exact times will vary according to individual or individual student's ability and how well the student utilizes work time made available during the school day.

For grades K-2, homework should not exceed 30 minutes each school day.

For grades 3-4, the recommended time is 60 minutes.

For grades 5-8, generally up to 90 minutes a school day is suitable.

For grades 9-12, 120 minutes per night is appropriate.

NOTE: An exception to the high school guideline could occur for Advanced Placement, College, and Honors Courses. It is reasonable to expect that the work load for such classes would exceed a regular high school course.

4. Each teacher shall annually establish a written homework procedure or syllabus, discuss it with all students, and provide them with a copy to share with their parents.
5. Homework used indiscriminately for disciplinary purposes is prohibited.

Specific procedures related to this policy are delineated in the Tyler County Administrative Procedures Manual.

REFERENCE: Lee Canter's Homework Without Tears for Teachers, A Publication of Lee Canter & Associates, Inc., 1989

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