

R 2330 HOMEWORK

Homework will be administered, developed, issued, and assimilated by the teacher. Factors in developing and issuing homework will be determined by the type of course taught, the grade level and academic/social/ emotional levels of the students, and reasons for the kind and type of homework issued.

All assigned homework will be aligned, and reflect the proficiency levels to be attained for each subject and grade level in the NJ State Core Curriculum Content Standards.

Teachers need to be cognizant of the reasons for issuing homework and students and parents need to be aware of the reasons. As the teacher states the goals and objectives for each lesson, students and parents need to know the goals and objectives for the assigning of homework. While there exist a multitude of reasons for issuing homework, major reasons include:

1. Reinforcement and practice of skills taught in class;
2. The need for students to preview material in preparation for a class. Example: reading material for discussion.
3. To develop independent study/work skills in students for preparation of further academic requirements and life skills of the future.
4. Independent projects where students are instructed to construct an item using materials for completion at home is prohibited. Evidence has shown that such projects, in some cases, are completed by parents, in part or in total. This creates an uneven playing field and enables children who have parents/guardians present and interested in assisting in the project to be at an advantage over children who do not. Such projects, when assigned, will be completed in the classroom. The same materials will be provided to all students at a cost to the Totowa Board of Education.
5. "Timeline" projects that depict family history, complete with photographs and significant events in a student's growth and development, assigned by teachers are prohibited. Such projects draw attention to students whose "timelines" are devoid of family members, photographs, or significant events.



REGULATION

6. Teachers must show caution when displaying student homework and classwork identified by student name outside the classroom. Such a practice jeopardizes student confidentiality. When parents are present in the classroom, efforts to hide student identification must be made to protect a child's anonymity and level of academic performance.

When predetermined standards developed by the classroom teacher and issued to students on the first day of school with copies for the Building Principals, for homework are not met, student names will be submitted to the Principal at the end of each marking period and those students will receive an after-school detention with an assessment of two disciplinary points.

Homework will be weighted no more than twenty percent of the student's grade.

Notification will be contained in the mid-marking report.

Students who are "not in danger" at the time of the mid-marking period report, and become "at risk" after mid-marking period reports are issued, parents will receive notification by the teacher before the end of the marking period.

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