

Mill Valley ESD

Board Policy

Homework/Makeup Work

BP 6154

Instruction

Homework is defined as assigned learning activities that students work on outside of the classroom. The Governing Board believes that homework should have a positive impact on student learning, while not placing an undue burden on students and families. While the role of the district is to educate students, the Board recognizes the value of extracurricular activities that challenge students and enhance their education, along with unstructured time and adequate sleep for a healthy school/life balance. For these reasons, and using current educational research as a guide, the Board recommends that homework should be assigned in reasonable amounts that can be completed within a reasonable time frame, and should meet one or more of the following purposes listed below.

To be effective, homework should:

- Connect to classroom learning.
- Provide students relevant, meaningful, purposeful work that deepens and/or extends learning.
- Have a well-defined purpose and clear instructions.
- Offer students an opportunity to practice, reinforce, and apply previously taught skills and acquired knowledge, and should not require the learning of new skills.
- Invite and provide the opportunity to creatively apply learning to real world and personalized contexts.
- Allow for practice on critical foundational skills.
- Develop academic skills and study habits.
- Provide feedback to students.
- Provide parents/guardians with a sense of their child's academic progress in specific areas.

The following are recommended parameters to be considered when developing and assigning homework assignments. These parameters help ensure that homework is able to be completed independently by students and allows them to maintain their sense of responsibility for the work.

Assignments should:

- Consider individual student needs and abilities.
- Be completed with minimal support from adults, who may serve as contributing resources. This support could include monitoring, encouraging effort, and providing an environment conducive to learning.
- Be assigned Monday through Thursday (elementary).
- Be assigned up to four days per week, per subject area (middle school).
- Not be assigned during extended school breaks.

Given these guidelines, the Board gives the responsibility of developing school homework plans to the administration and certificated staff of each school site.

Makeup Work

Students shall be given the opportunity to make up schoolwork missed because of an excused absence or suspension, and they shall receive full credit if the work is turned in according to a reasonable makeup schedule.

(cf. 5113 - Absences and Excuses)

Teachers may require a suspended student to complete any assignments and tests missed during suspension. (Education Code 48913)

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

Policy MILL VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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