

Instruction

Homework

Homework is an accepted part of the education program of children attending the Ansonia Public Schools. The assigning of homework is a practice supported by the Board of Education and one that the Board expects the administrators and staff to implement. The following policy regarding homework assignments is for the purpose of creating uniformity and clarity and establishing a system-wide policy.

A. Purpose

The purpose of homework is to help students become self-directing, independent learners. It shall be related to the system's philosophy of education and to district and school goals. Homework assignments shall support clearly defined school and classroom objectives and shall be used to reinforce or enhance school experiences as an application or adaptation of those experiences.

Homework at all grade levels shall include a specified amount of independent reading, and reading logs will be monitored and counted for class credit as an integral part of the homework assignment.

B. Time

The type of homework and the amount of time necessary to complete a homework assignment should vary from kindergarten to grade 12, with increasing amounts as children advance upward through the grades. Consideration will be given to students who may not have adequate time for homework preparation due to religious observance or illness; however, students must bear responsibility for managing time in a way that homework can be completed and submitted on time.

Required reading for students who are not yet reading on their own is understood to include reading to or with these youngsters. Older students will select "independent" reading with teacher input. Materials to be read should include fiction and non-fiction and may include appropriate newspapers/magazines, etc.

The following list of average minutes should be observed in assigning homework (please note that the reading time is included in the total minutes of homework):

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B. Time (continued)

Grade	Total Homework Each Day	Weekly Reading Total
K	15	40
1	25	60
2	30	80
3	40	100
4	40	120
5	50	120
6	60	120
7	70	120
8	80	120
9-12	90	One book per marking period; students select from a teacher-approved list.

The preceding time guides should not preclude long-range assignments which teach the students to budget time over a period of several days, a week, or longer. These long-range assignments of work are highly desirable.

The Board encourages the administration to assist teachers in planning homework assignments in keeping with the above guidelines, and expects that principals (or others, where appropriate) will monitor the implementation of this homework policy through various approaches such as review of lesson plans, observation of classes, conferences with teachers, examination of student papers and/or other related activities.

C. Conclusion

A carefully planned program for home assignments can be an effective means of increasing the student's learning and improving home/school communication. Homework assignments can be one of the best sources of public good will by providing another opportunity for the home and school to work together, since both home and school play a vital role in providing quality education for all students.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes
10-221 Boards of education to prescribe rules, policies and procedures

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ANSONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Ansonia, Connecticut