

## HOMEWORK POLICY

### HOMEWORK PHILOSOPHY OF MSAD No.33

The teaching staff and administration of MSAD #33 believe that homework is an essential element of our students' ongoing academic, social, personal, and vocational growth process. Homework assignments reinforce and enhance educational programs. We further believe that meaningful homework assignments require the teacher's understanding of individual student ability, home environment, and intellectual and chronological age.

#### I. Recommended Criteria for Assigning Homework:

##### A. HOMEWORK SHOULD BE:

1. Fully understood by the student
2. Geared to individual abilities
3. Able to be done independently
4. Meaningful, reasonable, and with purpose
5. Supplemental to the formal lesson presentation
6. Interesting
7. Not a punishment

##### B. TEACHERS SHOULD:

1. Be adequately prepared
  - a. Know the purpose
  - b. All for student initiative
  - c. Try out the assignment himself/herself
2. Vary the types of homework assignments
  - a. Class report
  - b. Topic for class discussion
  - c. Exhibit
3. Make and pass out an information sheet when appropriate to include such things as:
  - a. Due date
  - b. Title
  - c. Introduction
  - d. Clear directions
  - e. Questions

4. Help students organize their material and time
5. Make sure students have the necessary equipment/resources to complete the work
6. Be willing to work with students
7. Let students know their work will be reviewed
8. Let students know the criteria by which homework will be evaluated
9. Grade and return homework assignments promptly
10. Communicate with each other when students have more than one teacher so as not to overburden the students with ours of homework.

C. STUDENTS SHOULD:

1. Write down all assignments
2. Question teacher if assignment is not clear
3. Take home necessary books and materials
4. Complete assignments (including making up those missed during an absence)
5. Pass assignment in on time

D. PARENTS SHOULD:

1. Provide a quiet work area with adequate lighting
2. Encourage and assist their children
3. Supervise to assure completion of homework
4. Promote the importance of quality homework done with regularity

II. Recommended Types of Homework:

A. PRACTICE:

1. Should be demonstrated first
2. Drill on fundamentals
3. Limited remedial work

B. PREPARATION:

1. Planning
2. Reading
3. Reviewing

C. EXTENSION:

1. Guided and recreational reading
2. Writing
3. Problem solving

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4. Library research
5. Special reports and long-range study assignments, provided a time schedule for completion of the various phases of the assignment is set up
6. Collections
7. Recommended TV programs, good movies, plays, etc.
8. Use of community resources
9. Observing - will need some structure
10. Memorizing
11. Creating, making, doing, or constructing
12. Make-up work when absent

III. Recommended Time for Homework

Homework includes all school-directed educational experiences which occur outside of the school. No exact time limit for homework can be established. However, the following are suggested averages for students in:

1. Grades K-3: Occasional assignments for reinforcing skills
2. Grades 4-6: Homework assigned on a regular basis
3. Grades 7-8: Total homework assignments averaging 5 hours weekly
4. Grades 9-12: Total homework assignments averaging 5-10 hours weekly.

Approved by the Board of Directors  
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See minutes No. 554  
See minutes No. 645