

**HOMEWORK REGULATION**

The term "homework" refers to an assignment to be prepared during a period of supervised study in class or outside of class or which requires individual work in the study hall or at home. Homework shall be meaningful and connected to the content curriculum of instruction.

- The purposes of homework are to improve the learning process, to aid in the mastery of skills, to reinforce skills and knowledge taught in class, to instill a sense of responsibility and to create and stimulate interest on the part of the student.
- Homework is a learning activity, which should increase in complexity and time with the maturity of the student. With increased maturity, learning should become an independent activity. This should be established through consistent assignments, which encourage students to investigate for themselves, and to work independently, as well as with others.
- Teachers should assign meaningful homework assignments. The purpose should always be clearly understood by both the teacher and the student. Homework assignments should be consistent in terms of the amount given each day and the time required for each assignment so that a pattern of meaningful homework can be established by the teacher and/or the student.
- When major homework projects are assigned, clear time expectations shall be established and communicated to the student and parents as appropriate.
- All teachers assigning homework must consider and be aware of homework assignments students are receiving from their other teachers. The amount of time it takes a student to complete their homework should not be excessive. A general rule of thumb is 10 minutes total time per grade level. ie: 5<sup>th</sup> grade =50 minutes. 6<sup>th</sup> grade = 60 minutes.
- Teachers must coordinate and communicate in giving group assignments requiring work to be done at home as this can be a serious obstacle for students not living in the same community (Grades 7-12 for student in Dunbarton and New Boston).
- The information for any homework assignment should be clear and specific so that the pupil can complete the assignment. Students shall be provided with feedback on their homework in a timely fashion.
- Teachers shall provide to students and parents a clear understanding of how homework assignments are factored into a student's quarterly grade.
- Homework should not require the use of reference materials not readily available in most homes, school library or the public library and should require the use of those materials only when the pupil has had instructions in the use of them, and sufficient time is allowed to obtain them.

**HOMEWORK REGULATION  
(Continued)**

**Homework is assigned:**

- To start pupils in the process of carrying through independent reference work and writing.
- To carry out more intensive reading than time allows during the school day.
- To provide a means of "pulling together" a child's learning experience in school and out of school and extend learning into the home environment.
- For practice in any of the basic skills.
- To reinforce lessons taught in class.
- To make up work for periods of extended absence.

**Communication to Parents and Guardians About Homework:**

- In grades 1 to 3, teachers communicate to parents or guardians their expectations for homework at the beginning of each school year and at regular intervals throughout (approximately every two weeks) the year. This information is sent home with the child and parents are encouraged to contact teachers with questions they may have regarding homework.
- In grades 4 through 12, Agenda Books are provided for every student. Maple Avenue 4<sup>th</sup> grade, Mountain View Middle School and Goffstown High School, encourage the daily use of Agenda Books. At the beginning of each school year, the school will communicate guidance to parents or guardians regarding the purpose and use of the Agenda Books.
- Teachers will use agenda Books to establish a pattern of recording homework assignments reinforced at home by parents' review of the Agenda Books. They should be used consistently by all teachers and students and reviewed regularly by parents. The Agenda Book serves as an excellent resource for parents to view short and long term homework assignments.