

HOMEWORK

2330 HOMEWORK

Purpose of Policy: The Board of Education organizes its Policy Manual in order that users can easily locate the policies and regulations.

The North Haledon Board of Education acknowledges the educational validity of homework as an adjunct to and extension of the instructional programs of the schools in Kindergarten through grade eight. "Homework" shall refer to those assignments to be prepared by the pupil outside of the school or independently while in attendance at school.

The Board believes that well thought out homework assignments, structured by the teachers to be meaningful, can help to synthesize and integrate what pupils learn, provide pupils with opportunities for learning from different sources, allow pupils who work at a slower rate to complete assignments, create an educational bond between home and school, and help pupils to develop positive work and study habits.

The Superintendent of Schools, in consultation with the Building Principal(s) and teaching staff members, has established the following guidelines/parameters for the assignment of homework.

1. Homework assignments will have a specific objective/purpose and need to be presented clearly and concisely, noting specific pupil expectations.
2. Homework assignments will be appropriate to the grade level and shall be differentiated according to the needs and abilities of individual students. Differentiated homework whether short term or long term should not be the same for all within a classroom and may include, but not limited to, varied modes of learning such as repetition, creativity, analysis, and critical thinking.
3. Homework assignments will involve skill reinforcement, research skills, affective experiences, and experiences in creativity. It is encouraged to relate assignments to real world application, issues and problem solving.
4. Homework assignments will be discussed and corrected and, if collected, should be returned within a reasonable time with acknowledgment or corrections appropriate to the nature of the assignment.
5. Homework assignments should be coordinated with other teachers with regard to tests, major projects, and other assignments.
6. Homework assignments should have time limits set for their completion by the teachers that are reasonable and consistent with the nature of the assignments.
7. Homework will provide the teachers with accurate checks for understanding and will serve as an extension of objectives and goals emphasized within the classroom environment.

Pupils absent for any reason must make up missed homework assignments within a reasonable length of time. In most cases, a reasonable length of time shall be the same number of school days as the days missed.

If homework assignments are not completed by a pupil who has been absent during the previously stated time frames, then the alternative available for implementation by the teacher include, but are not limited to, the following:

- The pupil shall complete the assignment before or after school. If the time necessary to complete the assignment exceeds the amount of time permissible for a pupil to remain after school as stated in the Student Handbook, then the teacher shall notify the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) a day prior to the pupil remaining after school.

Pupils who consistently fail to complete homework assignments shall be held accountable for incomplete or missed assignments.

Incomplete or missed homework assignments will have a negative effect on a pupil's final grade, as determined by the teacher or grade level team.

Parent(s) or legal guardian(s) are asked for their cooperation with the school in establishing homework as a priority. They are asked to commit themselves to the concepts that completing homework assignments in a timely fashion (a) can help to increase their children's academic progress, and (b) can help to inculcate in their children a sense of personal responsibility.

The Board recognizes the importance of quality time spent with family and the opportunity for family and student to pursue activities of their choice. This valued quality time includes extended weekends, holiday vacations, and breaks (including

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summer). Thus, all teachers of the North Haledon School District shall adhere to the following:

- Homework assigned as a requirement for students may span extended weekends, holiday vacations, and breaks (not including summer break) but shall not require students to dedicate time for homework or complete homework during these periods of time. Teachers shall plan and allow for adequate time before and after these periods of time to complete assigned homework. Homework, including but not limited to projects, reports and other lengthy assignments, will not be due within 2 days after the end of a break.
- Homework assigned as an option for students may require a student to dedicate time during extended weekends, holiday vacations, and breaks (including summer break) in order to complete the assignment.

Adopted: 24 June 2015