

## PJA Afterschool Department Homework Support

*(Please read carefully and complete back portion before returning)*

**Homework support** is an important part of the PJA Afterschool day. Monday through Thursday afternoon, our programs provide at least 30 minutes of supervised space and time for children to read quietly and/or work towards completing homework assignments. All PJA Afterschool programs are equipped with the tools needed to support children in their reading and homework completion.

As choice-based programs, whether or not children choose to take advantage of this time is entirely up to them. However, families who wish to make homework a priority can complete a **Homework Contract** with their child.

### **Homework Contract specifies:**

- **What days of the week** the child should be taking advantage of homework
- **How homework time will be used** (e.g. reading only, homework only, both)
- **How much time** the child should spend taking advantage of homework time

### **The Role of Afterschool Staff in the Homework Contract**

Our Afterschool teaching staff will remind children about homework time and support them in finding a comfortable space in the homework time area. Please note: *Staff will not go through a child/youth's backpack to look for their homework.* Children can expect to receive general assistance from our Afterschool teaching staff as well as support in accessing homework-related resources. Due to strict licensing regulations staff are not able to provide one-on-one assistance or tutoring.

### **Homework Incentives**

PJA Afterschool believes that it is important to celebrate and reward each student's homework efforts. For every 30 minutes a child spends reading or working on homework, we give them one Homework Buck. Children can save their earned Homework Bucks until it's time to spend them at the Homework Store. These incentives are offered to all children who work on their homework, whether they have a Homework Contact or freely come to work on homework or enjoy a book.

**Homework Store** provides an opportunity for children to learn about and practice money management and math skills on both a personal and business level. Items available to purchase in the Homework Store vary widely and we strive to make the experience fun and educational. In addition to the extrinsic motivation our Homework Store and Homework Bucks encourage, we feel that the whole homework experience promotes intrinsic motivation as well. Students find homework time to be an enjoyable experience where they gain confidence in themselves and their abilities, learn how to hold themselves accountable and feel excited about their accomplishments.

## PJA Afterschool Department Homework Contract

*(To be completed by both guardian and child)*

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Program: \_\_\_\_\_

### Homework Time Schedule/Duration:

- M** Time spent per day: \_\_\_\_\_
- T** Time spent per day: \_\_\_\_\_
- W** Time spent per day: \_\_\_\_\_
- Th** Time spent per day: \_\_\_\_\_

**If my child says they have no homework, then they should** *(please check one)*:

- Take a day off from the contract
- Engage in quiet reading for the days and times listed above

**Is homework first priority (over quiet reading)** *(circle one)*?

- Yes**
- No**

**To be completed by child and guardian together:**

When I/my child gets stuck in their homework, it usually helps when:

---

---

---

---

**By signing below, I agree to:**

- Follow my Homework Contract as it's been written above.
- Follow Homework Time rules and expectations.
- Ask for help from the Afterschool teaching staff when I need it.

**Child's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**By signing below, I acknowledge that:**

- I have read the stipulations of this contract and am aware of its limits

**Guardian's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_