

Elementary Homework Procedures

South Washington County Schools
 7362 East Point Douglas Rd. S.
 Cottage Grove, MN 55016



PROCEDURE NAME	Homework - Elementary Grades Kindergarten through 5			
PURPOSE	The purpose of this procedure is to communicate to students and parents the rationale, potential value, and importance of age-appropriate use of homework.			
EFFECTIVE DATE	Fall 2022			
DEPARTMENT / ADMINISTRATOR RESPONSIBLE	Assistant Superintendents	CONTACT INFORMATION	651-425-6203	
APPLIES TO apply group names to define applicable areas of staff				
Students	Administrators			
Staff				

DEFINITIONS

- Homework – homework includes learning tasks assigned to students that are meant to be completed outside of class hours most often at home. Students may also complete homework during non-classroom school time.
- Homework should have an identified specific learning need. Homework is beneficial when it is intended to enhance prior knowledge; when the assignment is not at the appropriate level of rigor, there is potential to create an adverse effect on student motivation.
 - Prior to assigning homework, the teacher should take into account the age of the student, schedule, and how long each assignment may take the average learner.
 - The purpose of homework should be identified and communicated to students and parents by the classroom teacher.
 - When possible, students may be allowed choice in how they demonstrate their learning. For example, a written assignment may be altered to an oral or graphic product to demonstrate the student has mastered the learning objective.
 - When possible, teachers should coordinate for big projects, intensive homework, or group projects so that multiple projects do not fall on the same date to avoid over burdening students from completing the projects well.
- Personalized – An assignment created or modified to complement a student’s abilities and interests that focus on improving a skill set or knowledge base needed to demonstrate mastery of a specific learning target, benchmark, or standard.
- Standards Based Progress Report – give students a progress score from 1 to 4 in a number of standards. The progress reports include measurements called "success criteria" that clearly

identifies how these scores describe student performance at each level. The success criteria will give teachers and parents additional information about student learning, specific to student's learning needs measured against a standard. Students will be given the progress reports three times a year, once during fall conferences, once during winter conferences and at the end of the school year.

PROCEDURE

1. For elementary students, students should read daily (age appropriate from 10 - 30 minutes daily).. Consistent reading practice outside of school develops motivation and interest in reading, and children become literate through active experiences with literacy.
2. Students in grades 3 -5 may have math practice based on their classroom lessons.
3. There may be times when homework may be given by a classroom teacher based on the student needing extra time to complete a task that was initiated in class. In this instance the student should be able to independently work on such a task.
4. Group projects are not homework and should be done during class.
5. Homework should be considered a practice opportunity for reinforcing learning. It is not intended to demonstrate or be assessed as new learning. The formative nature of homework/home practice is to support instructional adjustment. Accuracy and completion rates of homework should not impact grading/scoring.
6. Students should be able to complete all homework assignments with limited assistance.
7. The role of parents should be to provide a supporting environment for students to complete their homework with limited assistance. If more than limited assistance is required or students struggle to complete homework in a timely manner, parents are encouraged to contact the teacher.
8. The importance and effectiveness of homework varies between grade levels. As students enter middle and high school, the amount and regularity of homework may increase as needed.

VERSION HISTORY			
REVISION DATE	APPROVED BY	DESCRIPTION OF CHANGE	AUTHOR
May 10, 2022		Initial Draft	Tyrone Brookins