



No. 130-AR

RADNOR TOWNSHIP  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

ADMINISTRATIVE  
REGULATION

IMPLEMENTATION DATE:  
September 5, 2017

## **130-AR HOMEWORK**

### **A. Purposes of Homework**

1. Reinforce problem-solving skills and learning strategies
2. Expand the student's depth of knowledge and ability to apply learning
3. Lead to independence and self-discipline in completing individual assignments
4. Develop and reinforce skills needed for success and life-long learning
5. Broaden and stimulate intellectual/creative development
6. Provide a feedback loop among teachers, parents, and students about student learning

### **B. Role of the Teacher in Homework Assignments**

1. Make certain that the assignment has genuine meaning
2. Make the purpose and expected outcome of the homework clear, so that students will be able to proceed independently within a reasonable and developmentally appropriate timeframe
3. Provide necessary support to ensure the student understands what is required to complete the assignment(s)
4. Establish methods of communication to ensure awareness when students encounter challenges/difficulties with completing homework assignments
5. Provide appropriate supports or alternatives for students who may not have the necessary resources at home to complete assignments
6. Take into consideration the individual student's needs and the expected time to complete the assigned homework
7. Be certain that homework assignments are completed by students within an appropriate timeline while not unduly interfering with religious observances, health, and/or non-school related extra-curricular responsibilities
8. Assess and provide feedback for assigned homework in a timely and appropriate manner to check for student understanding

9. Differentiate tasks for students, as appropriate, to address student interest, learning styles, and achievement levels
10. Comply with specifications within a student's Individualized Education Plan (IEPs), Gifted Individualized Education Plan (GIEPs), Section 504 Service Agreements, and all other records pertaining to students
11. Take into account the formative nature of homework and consider the impact of homework grades on overall course grades as a reflection of mastery

**C. Role of Student**

1. Make certain that he/she understands the requirements of the assignment as to its purpose, format, and due date
2. Assume responsibility for completion of individual assignments
3. Utilize study tools and available materials (if unavailable, inform the teacher who is assigning the work)
4. Manage study time effectively in school and at home
5. Communicate with teachers as needed to ensure that teachers are aware of difficulties students may be experiencing while completing homework assignments so that the teacher has the opportunity to offer support and suggest school based resources

**D. Parent(s)/Guardian(s)**

Parent(s)/guardian(s) are encouraged to assist in the homework process by:

1. Providing an atmosphere which is conducive to studying and completing assignments;
2. Encouraging the student to study at a regular time;
3. Assisting the student in understanding what homework has been assigned;
4. Encouraging the student to work independently while completing assignments in a timely and legible fashion, consistent with teacher expectations and student ability;
5. Assisting the student with time-management; and
6. Communicating with teacher(s) as needed to ensure the teacher(s) is/are aware of difficulties student is having successfully completing homework assignments so that the teacher has the opportunity to offer support and suggest school based resources.

**E. Homework in the Elementary School**

1. Average daily time expectations\*/\*\* are as follows:
  - a. Kindergarten homework may be assigned occasionally, but should not to exceed 5-10 minutes per night

- b. Grade 1: average of 5-15 minutes of homework per school night
- c. Grade 2: average of 20-30 minutes of homework per school night,
- d. Grade 3: average of 30-40 minutes of homework per school night,
- e. Grade 4: average of 40-50 minutes of homework per school night,
- f. Grade 5: average of 50-60 minutes of homework per school night

The amount of time does not include daily independent reading, math and writing practice, or other activities related classwork.

\*\*If the amount of recommended time for students to complete assigned homework is exceeding the above listed averages, it is important for the teacher to help identify needs of a student to be successful.

- 2. Elementary performance indicators reflecting a student's quality of homework, will be addressed through the "Qualities of a Learner" portion of the report card
- 3. Expectations for long-term assignments should be balanced with expectations for daily assignments to remain within the parameters of the average daily time expectations
- 4. The teacher should use discretion regarding the amount of screen time assigned to the student for homework considering the students may have experienced screen time during the regular school day
- 5. In rare circumstances, students having difficulty completing assigned homework may need to complete the work during recess. If a pattern of missed recess occurs, the teacher or school will establish communication between home and school to address the situation
- 6. Although not required, reminders of homework assignments may be posted electronically as assigned to the class to which it relates
- 7. It is the teacher's option to offer summer practice and the parent's/guardian's option to have the child complete it. Authentic reading/writing/mathematics practice opportunities are encouraged to occur at home on a regular basis
- 8. Long term assignments are not expected to be completed during non-instructional days
- 9. Non-instructional days are intended to be for restorative purposes

#### **F. Homework in the Middle School**

- 1. Average daily homework time expectations (the exception may exist for students whose parent(s)/guardian(s) override a course decision) is an average of 60-80 minutes per school night. (the broad range of time aligns with the specific grade level of the middle school student)

\*This includes, but is not limited to independent reading (either independent or with parent(s)/guardian(s)), math practice, writing or other activities related to classwork.

**\*\*If the amount of recommended time for students to complete assigned homework is exceeding the above listed averages, it is important for the teacher to help identify the needs of the student to be successful.**

2. Teachers will collaborate with students to ensure they know how to use tools to keep track of assignments
3. Workload should be comparable across all sections of the same level. This comparison should not be assumed to apply to a given day but over the duration of the course
4. Homework assignments in accelerated courses should reflect a greater depth and complexity rather than additional course work
5. Homework assigned on non-instructional days will adhere to the average daily expectations
6. Summer reading or review needs to be able to be completed independently with easily accessible materials. Authentic reading/writing/mathematics practice opportunities are encouraged
7. Homework will be assigned in the class to which it relates. Reminders about homework assignments may be posted electronically.
8. Long term assignments are not expected to be completed during non-instructional days
9. Non-instructional student days are intended to be for restorative purposes

### **G. Homework in the High School**

1. The amount of time to complete homework will be based on the course load the individual student is taking in a particular school year (refer to chart below). *Students who override into a course may find that homework may take them longer than the identified time to complete.*

RHS homework allocation chart:

	<b>AP/Integrated /Seminar</b>	<b>Honors</b>	<b>Advanced</b>	<b>College Prep</b>
Typical number of days homework is assigned within a week (includes long-term assignments)	On average 4-5 days per week	On average 3-5 days per week	On average 3-4 days per week	On average 2-3 days per week
Average time per night (including long-term assignments)	On average 45 minutes per night	On average 45 minutes per night	On average 30 minutes per night	On average 30 minutes per night
Summer work	More likely to be assigned	Some can be assigned	Some can be assigned	Less likely to be assigned
Average amount of time to complete	On average any work	On average any work	On average any work	On average any work

summer work (including long-term assignments) (Summer reading may be required of students and is not included in these estimates)	assigned can take up to 5-10 hours to complete over the course of the summer	assigned can take up to 5-10 hours to complete over the course of the summer	assigned can take up to 5-10 hours to complete over the course of the summer	assigned can take up to 4 hours or less to complete over the course of the summer
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2. Students taking higher level courses should expect an increased homework workload (refer to the homework allocation chart above);
  - Students planning to take more than a typical caseload of credits and/or planning to take one or more AP/Integrated/Seminar, Honors, or Advanced courses should meet with the guidance counselor in advance of scheduling in order to discuss time-management issues and how this decision may impact the ability to engage in other school and non-school activities
  - Students planning to take AP/Integrated/Seminar, Honors, or Advanced classes must be informed that those types of courses may require more summer work than other courses
  - Homework assignments in AP/Integrated/Seminar, Honors and Advanced courses should reflect a greater depth and complexity rather than additional course work
3. Homework assignments should not be posted electronically (e.g., online on Schoology and/or Schoolwires) unless the students are informed this will be the process of how homework will be assigned
4. Students should be aware of school-based resources offered by RTSD and take advantage of these as needed. These include but are not limited to the Math Center, the Writing Center, and (if available) peer tutoring
5. Homework assigned on non-instructional days will adhere to the Homework allocation chart (referenced above)
6. The amount of time to complete long-term assignments are included within the homework allocation chart referenced above
7. Non-instructional student days are intended to be for restorative purposes beyond the average night's homework
8. Students and parent(s)/guardian(s) will be informed at the beginning of the course (via course syllabus and/or program of studies description) regarding the teacher's philosophy of how homework will be assigned, assessed, and included as part of the student's grade