

TEACHER HANDBOOK ON HOMEWORK

The North Merrick School Board believes that homework is an extremely valuable activity that extends classroom instruction. Homework provides excellent opportunities for developing good study habits, providing for individual differences and abilities while encouraging self-initiative on the part of the student.

Homework assignments, given at all grade levels, reflect the increased instructional demands students encounter as they proceed through elementary school. Our goals, consistent with New York State Curriculum Standards for Education, require students to assume increased responsibility for their assignments as they progress in school.

Homework shall be assigned according to these guidelines:

- Homework should be a properly planned part of the curriculum extending and reinforcing the learning experiences of the school.
- Homework should help children learn by providing practice in the mastery of skills, experience in data gathering and integration of knowledge and an opportunity to remediate learning problems.
- Homework should help develop the student's sense of responsibility by providing an opportunity for the exercise of independent work, judgment, organization and time management.
- Homework should be based on students' abilities and needs.
- Homework should be clearly assigned and its product carefully and promptly evaluated.

The North Merrick Board of Education believes that parental involvement in students' homework is essential to making homework an integral part of the education program. Parents are expected to encourage and monitor assignments and provide conditions that are conducive to their successful completion.