

Instruction

Homework/Make-up Work

Homework

The Board of Education believes that meaningful homework assignments can be a valuable extension of student learning time, provide enrichment, and assist students in developing good study habits. The administration and certificated staff shall design homework plans and assignments so that through their homework, students can reinforce academic skills taught in school and learn how to conduct research effectively, develop ideas creatively and become life-long learners.

The Board believes that homework is the responsibility of the student. The Board encourages teachers at all grade levels to use the parent/guardian as a contributing resource and to structure homework assignments so as to involve the parent/guardian without diminishing the student's sense of responsibility. When assigning homework which involves interaction with parents/guardians, teachers should include instructions which show how parents/guardians can best help their children. The Board promotes student development of regular study habits.

Homework assignments shall be reasonable in length and appropriate to the grade level and course. The Board expects that the number, frequency, and degree of difficulty of homework assignments will increase with the grade level and the maturity of students. Teachers shall assign homework only as necessary to fulfill academic goals and reinforce current instruction, as related to individual student needs and abilities.

Students may use technology to assist with homework and/or makeup work in conducting research, correcting grammar and spelling, and learning from educational applications such as tutoring systems and language learning applications, as specified in Board Policy 5131.9 - Academic Honesty and Board Policy 6163.4 - Student Use of Technology.

The Superintendent or designee shall collaborate with school administrators and teachers to develop and regularly review guidelines for the assignment of homework and the related responsibilities of students, staff, and parents/guardians in accordance with Board policy and administrative regulation.

As appropriate, teachers may receive training in designing relevant homework assignments that reinforce classroom learning objectives and inspire students' interests.

At the beginning of the school year, teachers shall communicate homework expectations to students and their parents/guardians. Homework guidelines shall also be included in student and/or parent/guardian handbooks. These communications shall include the manner in which homework relates to achievement of academic standards and course content, the impact of homework assignments on students' grades, any school resources and programs that are available to provide homework support, and ways in which parents/guardians may appropriately assist their children.

Make-up Work

Students who are absent from school shall be given the opportunity to complete all assignments and tests that can be reasonably provided. As determined by the teacher, the assignments and tests shall be equivalent to, but not necessarily identical to, the assignments and tests missed during the absence. Students shall receive full credit for work satisfactorily completed within a reasonable period of time. (Education Code 48205)

The Superintendent or designee shall notify parents/guardians that no student may have a grade reduced or lose academic credit for any excused absence when missed assignments and tests are satisfactorily completed within a reasonable period of time. Such notification shall include the full text of Education Code 48205. (Education Code 48980)

Suspended Students

When a parent/guardian of a student who has been suspended for two or more school days requests homework that the student would otherwise have been assigned, the student's teacher shall provide such homework. If a homework assignment is requested and is turned in to the teacher by the student either upon the student's return from suspension or within the timeframe originally prescribed by the teacher, whichever is later, and is not graded before the end of the academic term, the homework assignment shall not be included in the calculation of the student's overall grade in the class. (Education Code 48913.5)

The teacher of any class from which a student is suspended may require the student to complete any assignments and tests missed during suspension. (Education Code 48913)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

8420-8428 21st Century High School After School Safety and Enrichment for Teens

8482-8484.65 After School Education and Safety Program

8484.7-8484.9 21st Century Community Learning Centers

35160 Authority of the Board

46120 Expanded Learning Opportunities Program

48205 Absence from school for jury duty or precinct board service

48913 Completion of work missed by suspended student

48913.5 Suspended students; homework assignments

48980 Parent/guardian notifications

56341.1 Assistive technology devices for a student with a disability

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1401 Assistive technology device; definition

7171-7176 21st Century Community Learning Centers