

BOARD POLICY

Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District

Instruction

6154 - BP

HOMEWORK

General Homework Policy for K-12 Schools

The Governing Board believes homework is an important part of the instructional program and a valuable tool to support students' efforts to master grade level content standards. In addition, the Board recognizes that meaningful homework, with timely feedback, contributes toward building student responsibility, self-discipline and life-long learning habits, and that time spent on appropriate homework can affect a student's ability to meet state and district academic expectations. The Board believes meaningful homework should:

- Emphasize quality rather than quantity
- Practice previously taught skills
- Develop a feeling of responsibility in the student
- Consider individual student needs, learning styles, and abilities
- Relate to the grade level standards and learning objectives as a direct extension of classroom instruction
- Include clear instructions and performance expectations so students can complete homework independently
- Be assigned regularly and in reasonable amounts
- Provide timely feedback for the student

Homework is defined as the time students spend outside the classroom in assigned learning activities. Time allocation and guidelines for teachers, students and parent/guardians shall be further defined in Administrative Regulations and communicated in a parent/guardian brochure.

The Board further believes completing homework is the responsibility of the student, and as students mature they are more able to work independently. Therefore, parents/guardians play a supportive role through monitoring completion of assignments, encouraging students' efforts, and providing a conducive environment for learning. Parents/Guardians are encouraged to confer with the teacher regarding issues that include, but are not limited to, time spent on homework and the amount and/or type of homework. During the conference, the teacher and parent/guardian may determine if adjustments are appropriate.

The Board believes it is the responsibility of students to complete all assigned homework on time. However, "A pupil shall not have his or her grade reduced or lose academic credit for any absence or absences excused pursuant to Section 48205 if missed assignments and tests that can reasonably be provided are satisfactorily completed within a reasonable period of time." (Education Code 48980)

Any student who misses an assignment shall be given the opportunity to make up work, within a reasonable period of time, for full or reduced credit, as determined by the classroom teacher.

Normally, homework will be assigned only on Monday through Thursday evening. Every effort will be made to avoid making weekend assignments due on the following Monday. Projects, semester notebooks and other such long-term assignments will include adequate time for completion, with special consideration for holidays, family and co-curricular activities. Assigning homework over holidays is discouraged.

Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) courses at the high schools represent college level coursework and may require extended reading assignments and research projects in preparation for external exams. This preparation may require extended homework time needed for completion of these assignments.

Teachers are encouraged to collaborate across grade levels and departments to monitor long term projects required and to ensure consistency across grade level/content areas.

To ensure consistency and equity in the amount of homework from school to school, administrators and teachers shall review the homework policy and administrative regulations at the beginning of each school year. In addition, teachers may receive training in designing relevant, challenging and meaningful homework assignments that reinforce classroom learning objectives.

Policy adopted: 2/19/68
Policy revised: 11/25/85
Policy revised: 3/3/86
Policy revised: 9/9/2014