



Middle School Homework - Parents

Frequently Asked Questions for Parents

Does not apply to High School credit courses taken at middle school

Algebra 1, Algebra 1 Honors, Spanish 1, French 1, Culinary Arts 1, and Introduction to Technology

1. Does homework count towards my student's report card grade?
Yes. Homework can count up to 10% of your student's quarter grade for middle school courses. This rule does not apply to high school courses taken at middle school.
2. Do all classes have homework?
Homework is assigned at the discretion of the teacher.
3. What constitutes homework

Teachers should design quality homework tasks that are connected to classroom learning. The purpose of the homework should be clearly communicated to the student.

Practice – student should be able to do the work independently because the skill has already been taught and modeled in the classroom.

Preparation – examples would include reading the next chapter, looking up new vocabulary words for the next book/chapter/unit of study. These assignments introduce new concepts that will then be discussed and expanded on in class.

Extension and Integration homework encourages higher order thinking as students apply established skills to new situations. In some cases, this could be cross-curricular. These assignments, that include a review of materials from previous assignments along with a preview of new concepts and procedures, better facilitate student learning.

Review/ study homework – Be sure to include studying and reviewing as part of the allotted homework time. Help students to study more effectively with study guides and practices for review before the test/ quiz.

Homework should not include "toxic" homework practices: large volumes of repetitive problems (ex. - 60 math problems), introducing new concepts with high risk

of failure (complex science assignment about a completely new concept which was never presented), unrealistic and inappropriate workload (30 vocabulary words to learn at once)... etc .

4. How much time should I expect my student to spend on homework each night?
The rule of thumb is approximately ten minutes per grade level. For example, a 6th grade student should have about 60 minutes of homework, a 7th grader 70 minutes, and 8th grader 80 minutes.

*Students enrolled in music/band classes may have practice assignments which would cause the total homework time to exceed the recommended averages.

5. How do I know what the homework assignment is for each class?
Teachers will post the assignments in the class, ANGEL, eSembler, your student's student planner.
6. How much homework supervision should I provide to my student?
Students should be able to complete assignments independently. Assignments should not require assistance; however, there may be times where supervision is required. For example, you may check the assignment notebook regularly, help students prioritize assignments, and review work as it is completed.
7. How can I maximize the educational benefits of homework for my student?
 - Emphasize the importance of homework when prioritizing activities
 - Encourage student independence in completing homework
 - Ask or answer questions that lead to your student's understanding of the subject matter
 - Encourage thoroughness
 - See to it that your student attends school every day
 - Contact the teacher or counselor if your student continually is struggling to complete the assignments.
8. What strategies can I use to ensure homework success for my student?
 - Have a work environment in your house that is conducive to learning and studying
 - Provide the materials necessary to complete homework
 - Encourage organization of student work
 - Assist in the development of time management skills
 - Make certain that missed assignments are received and completed in a timely manner
 - Be supportive when the student gets frustrated with difficult assignments
9. If my student is absent and homework is assigned on that day, how much time will my student have to make it up?
Be sure to remind your student to ask the teacher if any assignments were missed.
Your student will have 1 day per day of absence to turn in the homework assignment.

To clarify, if your student misses school on Tuesday and returns to school on Wednesday, any missing work would be due on Thursday.