
Homework Guidelines Goals

- ... To have consistent homework practices across the district
- ... To provide effective communication among students, parents, teachers, and administrators
- ... To support our community's high expectations
- ... To recognize the responsibility of the schools in nurturing our students and
- ... To promote positive attitudes and experiences regarding homework.



Guidelines for Administrators

- ... Communicate the district and school homework guidelines to parents and teachers.
 - ... Monitor the implementation of the guidelines.
 - ... Encourage communication among teachers within a grade level/discipline and across the district.
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Mission Statement

The mission of The Grosse Pointe Public School System, as a leader committed to the highest quality teaching, is to ensure that all our students learn and apply the knowledge, skills, and behaviors necessary to excel in their ever-changing world by concentrating the efforts of students, staff, parents, and community. —Adopted May 12, 1997



Dr. C. Suzanne Klein, Superintendent
Dr. Susan Allan, Assistant Superintendent
for Curriculum, Assessment, and Instruction

Board of Education

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Developed by the Grosse Pointe Public
School Educational Programs Leadership
Council Homework Committee, 2004.

References:

District 96, Buffalo Grove, Cook County,
Illinois Homework Policy
Conejo Valley Unified School District Instruc-
tional Services Division, New Homework Policy,
Rev. August 2002

The Grosse Pointe Public School System

Homework Guidelines

The Grosse Pointe Public School System has a commitment to excellence in instructional programs while taking into consideration the developmental stages of children. Homework is a continuation of a learning process developed in the classroom and carried on by the child in the home environment.

Its effectiveness depends upon careful planning by the teacher as well as supportive parental involvement.



Research has clearly shown that homework has different purposes at different grade levels. Homework for younger students develops positive attitudes and work habits while homework for older students develops or expands content and knowledge.

We acknowledge the importance of current research in developing and implementing homework guidelines that will maximize the effectiveness of homework as a strategy to improve student performance.

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Guidelines for Students

- ... Take responsibility for ethical practices in completing homework assignments.
- ... Seek a study buddy/partner/group for each class.
- ... Keep track of materials and assignments using organizers.
- ... Have a clear understanding of homework assignments before leaving school.
- ... Communicate homework with family and ask for help when needed.
- ... Complete assignments and turn in on time.
- ... Take advantage of study aides and before/after school programs when available.
- ... Find out about missed assignments in a timely manner.
- ... Consider a balance of activities such as athletics, clubs, etc., due to the demands made on time.
- ... Understand that selection of courses implies some expected differences in work load such as for AP and honors classes.
- ... Seek support and advice from school counselors at the middle and high school when needed.



Guidelines for Parents

- ... Set a regular time and place for study.
- ... Remove distractions.
- ... Have supplies and resources on hand.
- ... Set a good example.
- ... Show an interest.
- ... Encourage student to keep track of assignments in an organized way.
- ... Be available to help student with assignments when necessary.
- ... Review completed assignments with student as needed.
- ... Avoid the temptation to do the work for the student.
- ... Monitor and limit television viewing and telephone/computer usage.
- ... Guide student as he/she chooses classes and schedules activities, keeping in mind the homework load and time commitment each will entail.
- ... Recognize that the amount of time spent on homework will depend on a student's ability and work/study habits.
- ... Communicate openly with teachers, guidance counselors, and administrators.



Guidelines for Teachers

- ... Communicate clear goals for each assignment to students and parents.
- ... Assign homework that has a meaningful connection to the curriculum.
- ... Coordinate test days whenever possible.
- ... Differentiate assignments by giving comparable amounts of homework at an appropriate level of challenge for all students.
- ... Encourage or assist students to find a study buddy/partner/group.
- ... Return graded homework in a timely manner to assist student with their studies.
- ... Encourage students to use organizers and keep track of assignments.
- ... Communicate expectations to parents early in the year at Back to School Nights and through team newsletters.
- ... Encourage parents to contact teachers with homework-related questions and concerns.
- ... Coordinate major projects with the use of a Master Project Calendar including events for graded courses such as band concerts, etc.
- ... Avoid mandatory assignments over long vacation breaks (i.e., winter, mid-winter, and spring breaks.)
- ... Consider the following guidelines suggested by research when assigning total daily homework:
 - ... Grades K –2: 10 to 20 minutes
 - ... Grades 3-6: 30 to 60 minutes
 - ... Grades 7-12: up to two hours

Note: Student selection of courses implies some expected differences in workload, such as for AP and honors classes.
