

Chicago Public Schools Policy Manual

Title: HOMEWORK POLICY

Section: 601.2

Board Report: 96-0626-PO2

Date Adopted: June 26, 1996

Policy:

The Chicago Public Schools mandates that homework be regularly assigned to students. Homework should be a sequence of well-planned, meaningful assignments for completion during out-of-class time. The specific amount and frequency of assigned homework should be generally based on student needs, interests, and the content of the instructional program. Students should also be given long-term assignments, projects, and research from time to time.

Homework is a necessary component in the sequence of a child's education and should be assigned to:

- Provide reinforcement, practice, application, and enrichment of what is learned in class;
- Prepare students for class participation;
- Develop independent and responsible work and study habits;
- Extend learning activities beyond the school hours;
- Provide an opportunity for student creativity;
- Foster a closer relationship between home and school;
- Provide opportunities for the student to gain experience in the utilization of community resources; and
- Provide for positive on-going parental involvement in the student's education

The following are suggested time allocations for teacher-directed homework assignments:

Kindergarten 15 minutes per day

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Grades 1, 2 and 3 30 minutes per day

Grades 4, 5 and 6 45 minutes per day

Grades 7 and 8 90 minutes per day*

Grade 9 120 minutes per day*

Grade 10 130 minutes per day*

Grade 11 140 minutes per day*

Grade 12 150 minutes per day*

* Total across all subjects.

Students, parents, teachers, principals, Local School Councils, and Region Education Officers have the following responsibilities under the homework policy.

Students are responsible for maintaining a homework assignment notebook listing subjects, assignment dates, due dates, and date turned in. Students are expected to complete all homework assignments carefully and accurately and to turn them in by the due date. They should make necessary corrections on the returned homework and share with their parents the teacher's evaluation of homework assignments. They are to seek help, as needed, from parents and teachers.

Parents are to provide space and a quiet time for their child to complete the homework each night. They should monitor that the homework is being done and review the corrected homework returned by the teacher. Parents should assist their children in the utilization of community resources such as libraries, which can be helpful to the student when completing homework. Finally, parents should contact the teacher if there are any problems with homework.

Teachers are responsible for planning and implementing the homework policy in their classroom. Homework for students must appear in the daily lesson plans of teachers. These plans will be monitored by the principal for compliance with this policy. They are to develop a record-keeping/monitoring system and review all homework; to grade all work, noting areas for correction; and to return all collected assignments promptly. Homework activities should be for reinforcement, practice, application, enrichment, and creativity. They are to plan for the coordination and scheduling of assignments with other teachers to

meet the suggested homework time allocations. Teachers are to share the homework plan with students and parents and provide instruction in appropriate study habits and strategies. Homework is to be explained to students, and if specific materials are needed, teachers are to make sure that students are able to obtain the materials.

Principals are responsible for developing, implementing, and monitoring the homework policy, in consultation with the PPAC and the Local School Council. They are to define the relationship between subjects and grades and provide in-service sessions for the staff on the homework policy. They are to distribute the homework policy and the Children First - A Guide To Homework Success to parents.

The Local School Council is to work with the principal and staff on the development and implementation of the homework policy and the local expectations concerning homework. The LSC is to annually review local policies concerning homework.

The Region Education Officer monitors the local school implementation of the homework policy.

Amends/Rescinds: Rescinds 86-0514-ED7

Cross References:

Legal References: