



# Davis School District

*LEARNING FIRST!*

## DAVIS SCHOOL DISTRICT HOMEWORK GUIDELINES

### I. Definition

Homework is any schoolwork completed outside the classroom.

### II. Purpose

Davis School District believes that homework can be a valuable learning tool when it is purposeful and meaningful. We recognize and value the roles of parents and families in supporting student learning. As partners in education, administrators, teachers, families, and students should work together. The role of parents in the completion of homework should be kept to a minimum.

To promote a degree of unity across schools, Davis School District has created district-wide homework guidelines. These guidelines are based on current research. Individual schools should develop and follow homework guidelines appropriate to their respective communities. Grade levels, in elementary schools, and departments, in secondary schools, should develop and follow homework practices based on those guidelines. Administrators should work to educate teachers with regard to homework guidelines and review them with their faculties on a regular basis.

The purpose of homework in the elementary school is mainly to help students develop good study habits, foster positive attitudes about school, and communicate the ideas that learning takes place at home as well as at school. The purpose of homework in secondary school is to extend learning through practice and review.

### III. Guidelines

- Teachers should be aware of research regarding homework.
- Homework should be at the appropriate level of difficulty.
- Homework could be started in class to ensure all students understand how to do it.
- Homework should not comprise a significant portion of a student's grade.
- Homework should not be given as a punishment or removed as a reward.
- Teachers should clearly communicate the purpose, directions, and expectations for homework to students and parents.
- Teachers should provide parents with information regarding large projects which require homework. The work should be divided into manageable segments with intermittent due dates and ongoing feedback.
- Homework should not require any material that is not readily and commonly available in homes or provided by the school.
- Teachers should outline the role that technology will play in instruction and the degree to which it will be required at home.

- In general, homework should not require more than approximately 5-10 minutes per night, per grade level, to be completed by a typical student. In the early grades (K-3), it is expected that additional reading time may also be assigned. Advanced academic programs such as Spectrum, Honors, Advanced Placement (AP), Concurrent Enrollment (CE), International Baccalaureate and some elective courses may require additional homework.
- Teachers should carefully monitor the amount of homework assigned so that it is appropriate to students' age levels and does not take away too much time from home activities.
- Teachers should consider how many problems, or how much practice, is actually needed for students to reach proficiency.
- Teachers should avoid assigning homework that must be done during weekends and holiday breaks or during summer recess and off-track sessions in year-round schools.

#### **IV. References**

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