



Clayton Public School District

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HOMework PROCEDURES & EXPECTATIONS GRADES 1-8

Dear Parents:

This letter explains Clayton School District's homework procedures and expectations for grades 1-8. Please take a few minutes to review this document. If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact your child's teacher or the building principal.

Research

Assigning homework is integral to the educational program and the achievement of our students. In completing homework our students are afforded the opportunity to:

- Deepen their understanding of content
- Practice skills to become faster or more proficient
- Learn new content on the surface level

(Marzano, Pickering, Pollock, 2001)

Assigning homework also supports the school and parents' effort to ensure that students place significance on their schooling, and learn to balance their extra-curricular activities and home lives with educational requirements. Assigning and completing homework teaches responsibility and organization to our students. (Bempechat, 2004)

Teacher Expectations

Parents can expect that teachers will adhere to the following guidelines when assigning homework:

- Assign purposeful homework.
- Design homework to maximize the chances that students will complete it.
- Carefully monitor the amount of homework being assigned.
- Provide timely feedback to students (verbally or written).
- Establish two-way communication with parents. Communication can be expected via our child's agenda book, e-mails, and telephone calls.

Parent/Student Expectations

Please read and review the following guidelines with your child. We believe these guidelines will help decrease tension associated with homework and increase your child's learning.

For your child to be successful with homework he or she needs:

- A place to do homework. Create a quiet, uncluttered place for your child to complete homework and study.
- A schedule for completing homework. Set a homework schedule that fits in with each week's extracurricular and home activities.
- Encouragement, motivation, and prompting. We encourage parents to motivate children to begin to complete the assigned homework. Parents should minimize sitting and doing homework with their child. Your child needs to practice independently and apply what s/he has learned in class. Parents must also avoid completing homework for their child. Allowing your child to complete their homework on their own, even if they are struggling, will allow the teacher(s) to determine their strengths and weaknesses and plan instruction accordingly. If your child has difficulty completing assignments, please contact his/her teacher(s).
- Establish two-way communication with teachers. Your child's agenda book, e-mails, and telephone calls can be useful in communicating with your child's teacher. Short notes can also be written directly on homework assignments.