



Responsible Office(s): Office of Academics

BOARD POLICY 6154

HOMEWORK

PURPOSE

The Board of Trustees (“Board”) recognizes that homework can play an important role in building a student’s sense of responsibility, self-discipline, and life-long learning habits. Additionally, the Board believes that time spent on homework can directly influence a student’s ability to meet the Washoe County School District’s (“District”) academic standards. The Board maintains that conventional purposes for homework are practice, preparation, check for understanding, and development of work habits. Homework, when utilized in a school/class should be viewed as routine and an important part of students’ daily lives.

POLICY

1. Guiding Principles

- a. The decision to implement a site-based homework policy is designated to the school principal.
- b. Homework can be an essential component of the instructional process. When utilized, homework may provide reinforcement and extension of class instruction and serve as a basis for further study and preparation for future class assignments.
- c. Homework is one of many learning activities to engage students. Homework should extend learning and/or provide practice in applying concepts initially presented in the classroom; provide opportunities for independent work; strengthen concept and skill development; and provide opportunities for enrichment.
- d. Implementation of effective homework practices throughout the District depends on the cooperation, communication and support among students, parents/guardians, teachers, and administrators.
- e. Strong partnerships ensure families are welcomed as full members of the educational community and in the educational decision-making process for students.

- f. Effective homework practices ensure support that is responsive to student need relevant to equitable access and resources available outside the school setting.
 - g. Homework should not create inequity or otherwise cause a disadvantage to students' learning success due to time or resources available within the family to complete homework tasks.
2. Guiding Practices
- a. Meaningful homework may be regularly assigned to meet student needs appropriate to grade level, subject area, and ability.
 - b. Homework shall not to be used as a disciplinary measure.
 - c. Teachers will create an effective mechanism or system to communicate homework assignments. If appropriate and applicable, homework assignments may be placed on the teacher's website for further clarification to students.
 - d. To support the homework policy, schools will encourage parents/guardians to:
 - i. show interest in the student's work;
 - ii. encourage/offer advice;
 - iii. insist the work be completed through the student's own effort;
 - iv. provide a suitable, well-lit area free from distractions, equipped with necessary materials and resources;
 - v. set specific study times;
 - vi. confer with teachers for suggestions/concerns; and
 - vii. monitor activities to ensure assignments are brought home, completed, and returned on time.
 - e. The Superintendent shall cause to be created an administrative regulation, and any other applicable governing documents, to provide guidance related to the use of homework. Guidance shall include, but not be limited to, the responsibilities of teachers and administrators, grading procedures, average homework times, and protocols for assigning homework over extended breaks.

DEFINITIONS

1. Homework is defined as any schoolwork that requires completion outside of the regular instructional day, and includes assignments of short-term and long-term duration.
2. Conventional purposes for homework are practice, preparation, check for understanding, and development of work habits.

DESIRED OUTCOMES

1. Homework serves a valid purpose with measurable outcomes.
2. Homework reinforces learning concepts which are introduced during classroom instruction by providing activities to practice, apply, integrate, and expand the knowledge and skills of students.

IMPLEMENTATION GUIDELINES & ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

1. This document reflects the goals of the District's Strategic Plan and is aligned to District initiatives, resources, guidelines and documents, to include:
 - a. Board Policy 5200, Family Engagement
 - b. Board Policy 6600, Academics: Curriculum and Content Standards
 - c. Administrative Regulation 6154, Homework
 - d. Administrative Regulation 6200, Reading
 - e. Administrative Regulation 6300, Mathematics
2. This policy aligns with Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) and Nevada Administrative Code (NAC), to include:
 - a. Chapter 392, Pupils, and specifically:
 - i. NRS 392.4575, Educational involvement accords; policy by school districts for development and distribution; annual review; submission of information to school support team.

REVIEW AND REPORTING

1. This document shall be reviewed as part of the bi-annual review and reporting process, following each regular session of the Nevada Legislature. The Board of Trustees shall receive notification of any required changes to the policy as well as an audit of the accompanying governing documents.

2. Administrative regulations, and/or other associated documents, will be developed as necessary to implement this policy.

REVISION HISTORY

Date	Revision	Modification
4/27/1993	1.0	Adopted
7/29/2014	2.0	Revised
5/22/2018	3.0	Revised: change from mandatory to optional, making homework a site-based decision