

HOMEWORK/MAKEUP WORK

Homework

The Governing Board believes that homework serves many important purposes. The administration and certificated staff shall design homework plans and assignments so that through their homework, students can reinforce academic skills taught in school and learn how to conduct research effectively, develop ideas creatively and become lifelong learners.

The Board believes that homework is the responsibility of the student. It is the student's job to develop regular study habits and to do most assignments independently. The Board encourages teachers to structure homework assignments so as to involve the parent/guardian without diminishing the student's sense of responsibility. Parents will be provided guidelines on how to facilitate the completion of homework.

To be effective, homework assignments should not place an undue burden on students and families. Homework should reinforce classroom learning objectives and be related to individual student needs and abilities.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that each school site develops an effective homework plan.

(cf. 5113 – Absences and Excuses)

Teachers may require a suspended student to complete any assignments and tests missed during suspension. (Education Code 48913)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

48205 *Absences for personal reasons*

48913 *Completion of work missed by suspended pupil*

Policy

adopted: March 11, 1992

Revised: April 19, 2004

ALPINE UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

Alpine, California

HOMEWORK/MAKEUP WORK

The principal and staff at each school shall develop a school site homework plan which includes guidelines for the assignment of homework and describes the responsibilities of students, staff and parents/guardians. The plan shall inform parents/guardians as to how much time on homework will be expected and how homework relates to the student's grades.

Homework for Grades Kindergarten through Five

1. Students should be expected to spend an average of 30 minutes on homework at the primary level and an average of 45 minutes at the intermediate level (grades four and five), four or five days a week.
2. Kindergarten homework assignments should stimulate students to talk often with their parents/guardians. Parents/guardians should be encouraged to read to their children.
3. Homework assignments in grades kindergarten through three should promote the development of skills and good study habits.
4. In grades four and five, homework should continue to reinforce skill development. Assignments should help develop good personal study habits and may include occasional special projects. Teachers should instruct students on how to develop good study techniques and habits.
5. Homework assignments should not require use of reference or other specialized materials unless sufficient time is allowed for students to get such materials from the library.

Homework for Grades Six through Eight

1. Students should be expected to spend an average of one to one and a half hours on homework, four or five days a week. This includes any assigned independent reading.
2. Teachers of academic subjects should provide regular homework activities which promote the development of skills and provide students with the opportunity to grow academically.

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3. The teaching staff should coordinate assignments so that students do not receive an excessive amount of homework one day and very little the next.

Regulation
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Guidelines for Teachers

In assigning homework, teachers should:

1. Clearly explain, during the class period, the objectives and materials to be covered in the assignment. Ensure that students understand not just what is to be done, but why and how it should be done.
2. Be sure that assignments are reasonable and suggest appropriate study techniques.
3. Use discretion in assigning makeup work after a student's absence because of illness.
4. Keep parents/guardians informed of what is being learned and how their children's homework helps to promote this learning.
5. Provide feedback on completed homework assignments through corrections, comments or classroom review.
6. Avoid giving assignments or increasing them as punishment.
7. Keep in mind the student's obligations to home, community, and other school and school-related activities.

Guidelines for Parents/Guardians

To help their children, parents/guardians should:

1. Provide a suitable place for study, free from distraction and, if possible, reserved for that student alone.
2. Encourage the student and offer counsel, but insist that the student do his/her own work.
3. Check to see that the homework assignments are completed.
4. Express interest when their children talk about school.
5. Make school work a priority while balancing it with other activities.

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6. Communicate with teachers if assignments seem to cause students continuing problems.
7. Share ideas with their children on topics of common interest.
8. Keep in touch with the school program through calls, visits, and participation on school committees.
9. Insist upon the proper use and care of books and materials.

Guidelines for the Student

To be successful, students should:

1. Listen carefully to all directions regarding homework.
2. Ask questions if the assignment is not clear.
3. Keep a record of all assignments, including due dates and other specific requirements.
4. Have a definite time and place for study, free from interruptions and distractions, and have appropriate materials available.
5. Budget time wisely and maintain a schedule of study time.
6. Begin assignments promptly and turn them in when due.
7. Use libraries, dictionaries, maps and general reference materials with long-term assignments when necessary.
8. Strive for the best results.
9. Take the initiative in making up work missed for any reason.
10. Study independently unless a group or family project is assigned.

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11. Never copy classmates' work or that of others without proper referencing. Use your own words in homework assignments.