

MAINE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT #33

Homework

The Board recognizes that education research has shown a positive correlation between meaningful and purposeful homework and student achievement. Homework offers an opportunity to deepen understanding of material, practice new skills, and to promote critical thinking and creativity, positive study habits and the taking of for academic growth. Homework helps inform parents of their child's educational progress and encourages communication between school and home. The Board believes that reasonable, educationally sound, relevant and regular outside-of-class homework assignments are an important part of the total educational program.

The Board expects that homework will be assigned accordance with the following principles:

- A. Homework should be viewed as a means of extending learning opportunities beyond the school day.
- B. Homework should be meaningful, purposeful and directly related to the curriculum.
- C. Homework supports students in developing goal setting, self-discipline, time management, organizational skills and other positive "habits of work."
- D. Homework offers an opportunity for parent involvement and monitoring their child's educational progress.
- E. Homework provides teachers with additional opportunities for assessing student progress and determining instructional needs.
- F. Immediate, specific feedback must be given to students in order for homework to be effective in enhancing student learning.
- G. Homework must be realistic in length and difficulty given the students' abilities to work independently.
- H. Homework should emphasize quality rather than quantity.
- I. The amount of homework assigned should be gradually increased from grade to grade. As a child advances through school, it is reasonable to expect that the amount of homework can be increased using the following guidelines:

- Grades K-2: Up to a total of 30 minutes per day;
- Grades 3-4: Up to a total of 45 minutes per day;
- Grades 5-6: Up to a total of 60 minutes per day; and
- Grades 7-8: Up to a total of 75 minutes per day.

Beyond the elementary self-contained K-8 grades, teachers in grades 9-12 will assign homework based on the rigor of the content, up to 30 minutes per subject for daily assignments.

Long-term projects such as research papers and book reports will be assigned in advance so that students can learn time management and good study habits. A timeline outlining due dates will be provided with the assignment.

The Board encourages professional staff at each grade level and/or academic department to work together to achieve consistency in assignment and assessment of homework. The building principal, in consultation with professional staff, may develop homework guidelines to achieve this goal.

History:	Adopted	Meeting #554	November 3, 1988
	Revised	Meeting #645	October 4, 1993
	Revised	Meeting #987	May 1, 2017