

# **DIXIE MAGNET ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HOMEWORK POLICY**

## **DEFINITION**

Homework will be used to increase students' opportunities to learn. It is completed outside the classroom and is intended to provide added opportunity to practice skills, engage information, and explore topics using varied learning styles and interests. Homework assignments will include not only written assignments but also opportunities to take part in cultural and creative activities and real-world applications of learning.

## **PURPOSE**

This policy is intended to guide all faculty, parents, and students and to establish responsibilities and guidelines for standards for the assignment, evaluation, and monitoring of homework assignments.

The policy does not apply to students receiving homebound instruction or whose Individualized Education Plan requires that homework be addressed in a different way.

## **TEACHER RESPONSIBILITIES**

All teachers will:

- Make sure that students understand any individual classroom homework standards;
- Assign appropriate homework that is designed to support instructional goals, and that does one or more of the following:
  - Reinforces class instruction and skills that have been taught by transferring and extending classroom instruction;
  - Increases understanding and retention;
  - Prepares for class discussion;
  - Provides opportunities for curriculum enrichment and real-world applications.
- Assign appropriate amounts of homework as needed, which may vary depending on the subject matter and students' needs;
- Ensure that students understand and can explain not only homework directions but also the purpose of any given homework assignment as well as how it relates to what they are learning in class;
- Not assign homework over the weekend or when schoolwide events are scheduled;
- Make an effort to correlate the amount of homework given with other teachers so as not to overload students on any given night. Allow student choice within homework assignments whenever possible;
- Provide instructional follow-up and feedback the day that the homework is due.

## **PRINCIPAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

The principal will ensure that:

1. All teachers, parents, and students receive a copy of this policy at the beginning of each year;
2. Ensure that homework is not used as a punishment or reward.

## **STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES**

Students are responsible for completing and turning in their homework and, with support from their parents, will be encouraged to:

1. Write down assignments and due dates, ask questions, and select necessary books and supplies before leaving school;
2. Plan the best time to complete work based on your family weekly agenda;
3. Complete work so that it is neat and legible.

## **PARENTAL SUPPORT**

It is the intent of this policy to address work assigned specifically as homework. As part of Dixie's educational tradition, it is strongly recommended that each student read or be read to on a daily basis. We also expect that each student will develop consistent study habits. In situations where homework is not assigned, this time should be used as independent practice and review. The cooperation of parents, teachers and students is imperative to ensure success.

Parents will be encouraged to be actively involved with their children's schoolwork by doing the following:

1. Show interest with questions about and comments on the schoolwork children bring home;
2. Provide a suitable place to study that is free from disturbances and by supplying needed materials for completing homework;
3. Prompt and offer to clarify instructions and answer questions, but not sitting with the child;
4. Assist their child with time management;
5. Check to see that work is complete;
6. Encourage their child to do his/her best work and praising a job well done including rewarding in appropriate ways for completed work;
7. Stay in close communication with teachers.

## **POLICY EVALUATION**

We will evaluate the effectiveness of this policy through our School Improvement Planning Process.

Date Adopted: 1/12/94

Date Reviewed or Revised: 4/18/13

Date Reviewed or Revised: 6/5/14

Date Reviewed or Revised: 5/9/16