



Simons Middle School



12.1 – 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 faculty, parents, and students and to establish responsibilities and guidelines for standards for the assignment, evaluation, and monitoring of homework assignments.

TEACHER RESPONSIBILITIES

All teachers will:

1. Make sure that students understand any individual classroom homework standards that a teacher may have including information contained in this policy.
2. Assign appropriate homework on a regular basis 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.
3. Assign appropriate amounts of homework per week, which may vary depending on the subject matter and students' needs.
4. Make an effort to correlate the amount of homework given with other teachers so as not to overload students on any given night, keeping in mind the "rule of thumb" of assigning students a total nightly amount of homework which will consume an amount of time approximately 10 times their grade level.
5. Allow student choice within homework assignments whenever possible.
6. Return collected homework in a timely manner and/or provide instructional follow-up and feedback that focuses on content and performance standards.
7. 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.
8. Keep accurate records of homework assignments.

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:



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Instructional Practices Cont.

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.
3. Complete work so that it is neat and legible.

PARENTAL SUPPORT

Parents will be urged to actively involve themselves with their children's schoolwork by doing the following:

1. Showing interest with questions about and comments on the schoolwork children bring home.
2. Providing a suitable place to study that is free from disturbances and by supplying needed materials for completing homework.
3. Prompting and offering to clarify instructions and answer questions, but not sitting with the child.
4. Assisting their child with time management including monitoring TV/computer/video game use.
5. Checking to see that work is complete.
6. Encouraging children to do their best work and praising a job well done including rewarding children in appropriate ways for completed work.
7. Staying in close communication with teachers.

POLICY EVALUATION

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

First Reading: January 22, 2018

Second Reading: February 19, 2018

Date Adopted: February 19, 2018

Signature: 

Date Reviewed or Revised: _____

Council Chairperson's Initials: _____

Date Reviewed or Revised: _____

Council Chairperson's Initials: _____