

HOMEWORK

NEPN/NSBA Code: IKB

The Fayette School Committee believes that homework is an integral part of the learning process, and is a necessary and desirable extension of the instructional program within the school system. It helps students to practice and internalize concepts and skills taught in class. It reinforces and extends the understanding of the concepts. It lays the foundation for concepts to be taught in the near future.

Meaningful homework assigned by teachers and supported at home, provides opportunities for students to develop effective study habits, time management skills and organizational skills, while learning the importance of setting personal goals, working to achieve them, and being responsible for task completion. The Fayette School Committee believes that homework provides an increased opportunity for parents to be involved with their student's education. When students see that their parents think the school's educational program is important, their performance improves. Homework may be written, project oriented, or task oriented assignments for students to complete or perform.

Responsibilities

It is expected that the faculty of Fayette Central School will follow the general guidelines of the homework policy, and provide regular, clear and consistent communications with the students and parents relative to the expectations of homework assignments. Likewise, it is expected that the parents and students will accept their responsibilities as stated in these guidelines.

A. Teacher's Responsibilities:

1. Assign meaningful and clearly defined homework, with directions on how the assignment is to be completed.
2. State clearly to parents and students the expectations for homework assignments:
 - how work is to be completed (i.e. neatness)
 - the date due
 - consequences for tardiness
 - how to make up for missed work
 - optional, or "for fun" assignments should be labeled accordingly
3. Modify homework content and type, acknowledging range in student abilities, needs and interests.
4. Communicate with parents on a regular basis about:
 - the importance of supporting the homework policy
 - what acceptable levels of assistance are for a given assignment
 - what is going on in the classroom and how it connects to homework
 - when a student is consistently not meeting homework requirements

5. Collect students' homework, review and return promptly to students, with appropriate feedback and/or grade. (Routine or regular assignments, not written or collected, should be verifiable by the teacher.)
6. Periodically evaluate the school policy on homework to recommend changes needed.

B. Parent's Responsibilities:

1. Expect students to be responsible for the completion of their own homework assignments in a **neat** and **timely** manner.
2. Monitor and review student's daily homework assignments with them. Check for homework agendas or assignment books that accompany homework assignments.
3. Provide the student with an environment conducive to good study habits (a quiet room, minimal interruptions, proper lighting, a place to work, and a minimum of conflicts with study time).
4. Practice daily reading for pleasure or to gather information, independently or shared, **and** writing through practical applications.
5. Check for and review notices, newsletters and other communications coming home with students.
6. Guide students to build time management and organizational skills necessary for being a self-motivated learner.
7. Consult with teacher when there are issues, questions or concerns regarding homework assigned.
8. Discuss what is happening in school, as it pertains to homework, on a regular basis, complimenting good work and effort, and making constructive suggestions for improvements.

C. Student's Responsibilities:

1. Learn what good study habits are and practice them.
2. Keep track of daily assignments, complete them neatly and thoroughly, and return them in a timely manner.
3. Bring home papers, reports, and notes; show them to parents; return them to school when necessary.
4. Do assignments to the best of ability, according to the directions provided. Make sure that work is labeled with student's name and date, if required.

5. Make arrangements with the teachers if there are to be any conflicts with the homework schedule and extra-curricular activities, or to make up missed work following an absence.
7. Share teacher expectations for assignments accurately with parents.
8. Be aware of the impact of homework on student's grade.

Suggested Time Recommendations by Grade Levels

The type and amount of homework assigned should be appropriate to the age and ability of the students, and should gradually increase from grade to grade.

- A. **Kindergarten:** 10-20 minutes, 2-4 times per week. Students should work on developing responsible school behaviors.
- B. **Grade 1:** 15-30 minutes, 2-4 times per week for all subjects combined. Students should be learning responsible school behaviors and ownership of their belongings.
- C. **Grade 2:** 30-40 minutes, 3-4 times per week for all subjects combined. Students should begin to develop responsibility, organization, time management skills, and establish an independent home study routine.
- D. **Grade 3:** 30-40 minutes, 3-4 times per week, for all subjects combined. Students should begin to develop responsibility, organization, time management skills, and establish an independent home study routine.
- E. **Grade 4:** 30-60 minutes 3-4 days per week, for all subjects combined, with allowances made for projects. Students are responsible for recording their own daily assignments, have an established routine of home study, and have complete ownership of their own home study program.
- F. **Grade 5:** 30-60 minutes 3-4 days per week, for all subjects combined, with allowances made for projects. Students are responsible for recording their own daily assignments, have an established routine of home study, and have complete ownership of their own home study program.

Legal Reference: ME. DEPT. OF ED. RULE CHAP. 125.23, A, 5, 1

Cross Reference:

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