



Book	Policies
Section	05000 Students
Title	Homework
Number	5053
Status	Active
Adopted	August 7, 2018

#### A. Homework Defined

Work and study at home that is prepared and planned ahead of time to enhance intended learning objectives of prior lessons.

#### B. Purposes of Homework

Homework is a valuable learning tool when it supports the goals of education, is purposeful and meaningful. Homework should require thought, effort and the competent demonstration of learned skills.

1. Pre-Learning: To provide an introduction to a topic, to determine what the students know or are interested in learning, or to stimulate interest in a topic.
2. Check for Understanding: To gain insight into the students' learning.
3. Practice: To practice already learned skills only after the teacher has adequately checked for understanding. It is most effective when distributed over several days.
4. Processing: To have students reflect on concepts, think of new questions or apply skills learned to synthesize information such as long term or summary projects.

#### C. Student Bill of Rights

Homework should have a focus on learning that helps students acquire knowledge or skills through experience, study or by being taught.

1. Students have a right to receive help with concepts they do not understand as designated by the school. (e.g. before school, after school, tutoring, etc.).
2. Students are responsible for attempting all homework.
3. Tooele County School District recognizes the child's right to playtime, downtime and adequate sleep.
4. Families shall be entitled to weekends and holiday breaks free from assigned homework, as defined in this policy Section A.

#### D. Expectations for Home

Families are encouraged to:

1. Provide a place for homework.
2. Provide a time for homework.
3. Provide a routine for homework.
4. Partner with the school in providing homework support.
5. Allow your child to work on homework independently; give support as needed.
6. Share any concerns regarding homework with your child's teacher(s).

#### E. Expectations for Teachers

1. Quality teaching matters: homework must be connected to what happens in the classroom.
2. Skills require practice: make sure students are practicing the skills correctly. Shorter, more frequent periods of practice are better than longer, less frequent practice.

3. Task is as important as time: well-designed homework is important; it should be related to classroom learning, simple enough to do on their own and relevant to real life.
4. Teachers will take into consideration learning styles, developmental levels, motivation, and organizational skills and where possible provide choices and flexibility.
5. Children differ in motivation, persistence and organizational skills: wise teachers seek feedback from students and consider how they might tap into students' interests.
6. Frustration is detrimental to motivation and the desire to learn: checking for frustration is critical.
7. Projects are intended to be assigned and completed in class: provide students and parents with project information: (e.g. assignment criteria, due dates, materials needed, etc.) in a timely manner. Some projects/assignments, or portion of the project, may be assigned to be completed at home with intermittent due dates and ongoing feedback.

#### F. Expectations for Schools

1. Each school will provide expectations and strategies for students to successfully complete both classwork and homework.
2. Each school will communicate with students and their responsible parties about support programs available at their school.
3. Support programs may include, but are not limited to: before and after school help, technology lab availability, study skills courses, extended lunch, tutors etc.
4. Each school will routinely assess effectiveness of their support programs and adjust them as needed.
5. Feedback from students, teachers, and responsible parties will be considered.

#### G. Recommended Homework Limits Time Per Day

##### 1. Homework Minutes Per Day

ELEMENTARY		SECONDARY	
Grade	Minutes	Grade	Minutes
Kindergarten	20	7 <sup>th</sup>	70
1 <sup>st</sup> /2 <sup>nd</sup>	20	8 <sup>th</sup>	80
3 <sup>rd</sup>	30	9 <sup>th</sup>	90
4 <sup>th</sup>	40	10 <sup>th</sup>	100
5 <sup>th</sup>	50	11 <sup>th</sup>	110
6 <sup>th</sup>	60	12 <sup>th</sup>	120

2. Homework need not be assigned every day, and minutes don't carry from day to day.
3. Students are encouraged to recreationally read nightly for 20 minutes, especially in the early grades.
4. Homework that includes required reading (outside of recreational reading) should be considered when assigning homework. (i.e., if a fifth grade student is assigned 20 minutes of reading, the teacher may assign an additional 30 minutes of homework for a total of 50 minutes).
5. Teachers of students in grades 7-12 should be aware that the time recommendations is per day, not per class period. Tooele County School District encourages teachers to coordinate as much as possible to avoid homework overload.
6. Parents and students should be aware that elementary DLI and secondary academic programs such as honors, advanced placement (AP), and concurrent enrollment (CE) may require additional time.

Last Modified by Diane Valdez on August 8, 2018