

WEST BOYLSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Policy IKB – Homework

Effective implementation of the homework policy will occur when teachers, parents, and students communicate well with each other in a home-school partnership. Homework is provided with an understanding of the realities of family life, along with the recognition that it is an important part of the learning activity of the students.

The term "homework" refers to an assignment which is to be prepared during a period of supervised study in class or outside of class. The purposes of homework are to reinforce classroom instruction, to aid in the mastery of skills, and to develop independent work habits.

Homework is a learning activity which should increase in complexity with the maturity of the student. With increased maturity, learning should become an increasingly independent activity. This should be established through consistent assignments which encourage students to investigate for themselves and to work independently as well as with others.

The care with which a homework assignment shall be given, the quality of the responses of students, and the nature of the follow-up activities in the classroom shall be of greater importance than the quantity of work involved in a homework assignment.

A student shall not be given a homework assignment which requires resources and references which are not accessible to him/her and shall never be given to a student or to a class for disciplinary reasons.

The time required to complete homework assignments will vary at all grade levels according to the nature of the subject/area being studied and the needs and abilities of the students. The following is a guideline for weekly homework assignments:

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|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| a. Kindergarten | 15 minutes per week |
| Grade 1 | 10 minutes 4-5 times per week |
| Grade 2 | 20 minutes 4-5 times per week |
| Grades 3 | 30 minutes 4-5 times per week |
| Grade 4 | 45-60 minutes 4-5 times per week |
| Grade 5 | 45-60 minutes 4-5 times per week |
| Grade 6 | 60-90 minutes 4-5 times per week |
| Grades 7-8 | 60-90 minutes 4- 5 times per week |
| Grades 9-12 | varies by course |
- b. In addition, students will be expected to read independently as assigned by their teacher.
- c. Long term projects are not subject to the above noted time allocation.

Parents may verify that a child has worked for the required time period by signing the homework. If this becomes a repeated action, it will signal the need for a parent/teacher conference.

First Reading – January 8, 2014

Second Reading and Adoption – February 12, 2014

Amended – January 13, 2016