

## **Dixie Elementary School Homework Guidelines**

Homework is defined as an assigned activity that is primarily accomplished outside of regular class time. Such work shall be appropriate to the grade level, subject matters, and instructional objective(s); in general, the amount of time spent on homework shall increase as the student progresses through the grades.

### **Purpose and benefits of homework can include:**

1. Extend or make more meaningful concepts introduced at school.
2. Engage students in purposeful practice relevant to their learning.
3. Develop effective study habits.
4. Develop independent learning skills.

### **Responsibilities of Students:**

- Listen carefully to all directions regarding homework; ask questions if the assignment is not clear.
- Fourth and fifth grade students will write down assignments in their daily planners.
- Set aside a regular time for studying.
- Work on homework independently, so that it demonstrates your best efforts. When necessary or when required by the teacher, ask for appropriate homework help.
- Produce quality work.
- Make sure assignments are done according to the given instructions, and completed on time.
- Read 20 minutes per night, in addition to the assigned homework.
- Complete homework assigned during an illness or absence in a timely manner if applicable.
- Realize that regular study as well as written work, is an integral part of homework.

### **Responsibilities of Staff:**

- Ensure homework is relevant and meaningful to reinforce classroom learning.
- Give clear instructions and ensure students understand the purpose and procedures.
- Check, review and provide timely feedback for homework.
- Prepare written guidelines of the homework requirements including the relationship these guidelines have to the student learner and reporting grades.
- Present guidelines at Back to School Night and throughout the year if needed.
- Encourage daily reading.
- Monitor long-term assignments in order to avoid last minute student efforts.
- Allow students to make up work if absent due to a religious observance.
- Assign no new homework over a weekend, official holiday or break. Assign no homework on Friday and expect it to be returned the following Monday. Note: projects or make-up/late work may span into or over multiple weekends or break.

- If a pattern of late or incomplete homework develops, involve parents and contact them in a timely manner.
- Monitor the effectiveness of homework as reflected in student performance.

**Responsibilities of Parents:**

- Contact the teacher to stay informed about the student’s learning.
- Monitor and/or check completed work.
- Set a regular, uninterrupted study time each day in a quiet, well-lit study area.
- Help the child establish school work as a high priority above social and recreational demands.
- Monitor student’s organization, daily list of assignments and sign documents as requested by teacher.
- Monitor daily reading.
- Help students to focus on learning, not to just get the work done. Encourage independent work unless the assignment requires group or parental involvement.
- Be supportive when the child gets frustrated with assignments. If your child regularly exceeds the expected time guidelines, communicate this to the teacher in a timely manner.

**Responsibilities of Administration:**

- Implement district policy.
- Support professional dialog.
- Promote teacher collaboration.
- Monitor homework quality.
- Facilitate interventions and support programs.

**Time:**

It is understood that the expectations below are averages and that actual minutes will vary based on the content of the instructional program during a particular week and the length of time individual students need to complete particular assignments.

The expectation for the average student by grade level is as follows:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Time per Day</u>
K	10-15 minutes (+ 20 minutes reading)
1	15-20 minutes (+ 20 minutes reading)
2-3	30 minutes (+ 20 minutes reading)
4-5	30-50 minutes (+ 20 minutes reading)