

## Definition

Homework is considered an integral part of the instructional program of the Transylvania County Schools. Homework should consist of curriculum related assignments designed to enhance or reinforce concepts taught in the classroom and will require time and effort outside the regular school day for successful completion.

## Purpose

- To practice, extend and reinforce the skills and concepts taught in the classroom.
- To contribute toward building responsibility, self-discipline and lifelong learning habits.
- To promote independent learning and stimulate individual initiative, personal responsibility and self-direction.
- To provide parents and caregivers insight into what is being taught in the classroom and strengthen the home/school link.

## Types of Homework

Types of homework which will be appropriately assigned, taking into consideration students' needs, abilities, age, grade in school, and should include:

- Practice exercises that provide students with opportunities to apply/reinforce newly acquired skills and knowledge.
- Preparatory assignments that provide opportunities for students to get ready for activities in classroom.
- Extension assignments such as long term/special interest projects, research, and investigations that parallel class work and complement the standard course of study and encourage students to pursue knowledge individually and imaginatively.
- Broad enrichment activities related to current classroom instruction that provides opportunities for creative thinking and the integration of skills.
- Focused remedial assignments designed to meet the needs of individual students by helping to reinforce knowledge and skills needed to be successful on local and state assessments.

## Responsibilities

*Students:*

- Write down assignments in a designated location.
- Understand the assignments. If necessary, ask for clarification.
- Take home all materials necessary to complete the assignments with attention to quality.
- Make sure assignments are done according to the given instructions and turned in by the specified due date.

- ~~Work on homework independently as much as possible so that it reflects the student's ability.~~

*Parents:*

- ~~Recognize the importance of homework as part of the educational process.~~
- ~~Provide a suitable work environment conducive to learning and set aside time for homework.~~
- ~~Provide encouragement and support when the student gets frustrated.~~
- ~~Guide or assist in homework when unusual difficulties arise (but never do the homework for their child).~~
- ~~Monitor student's organization and daily list of assignments.~~
- ~~Communicate with teacher regarding concerns about homework (time, materials or difficulty).~~

*Teachers:*

- ~~Assign relevant, challenging and meaningful homework assignments that reinforce classroom learning objectives, and properly meet the needs of individual learners.~~
- ~~Set a suitable amount of relevant homework, which is appropriate to the ability of each student.~~
- ~~Give clear instructions and be sure homework objectives are fully understood.~~
- ~~Provide specific written explanation of long range assignments so that the requirements and expectations are clearly understood by the students and their parents.~~
- ~~Provide appropriate feedback on completed assignments in a timely manner.~~
- ~~Involve parents and inform them if a pattern of late or incomplete homework develops.~~

## **Guidelines**

~~The time allotted to homework will increase gradually from grade to grade. Actual time required to complete assignments will vary with each student's study habits, academic skills and selected course load. Students are encouraged to pursue non-assigned, independent, leisure reading.~~

~~The following is a list of approximate daily time allotments:~~

~~Grades K-2: 10-30 minutes~~

~~Grades 3-5: 30-60 minutes~~

~~Grades 6-8: 60-90 minutes~~

~~Grades 9-10: A general guideline of 1-2 hours while giving consideration to individual student needs, ability levels, and program of study.~~

~~Grades 11-12: Amount of time will depend on the student's individual course schedule.~~

- ~~These timeframes do not include basic math facts or practice/independent reading.~~
- ~~These times are approximate. Individual student's pace may need to be taken into consideration.~~
- ~~Class work not completed within the allotted time may be assigned as homework, thereby exceeding the recommended daily time allotted to homework.~~
- ~~The school principal shall be responsible for coordinating the school's homework practices so that assignments are balanced with respect to amounts given in any one day and/or in any particular subject area.~~

### **Weight/Impact**

~~Individual schools will collaboratively determine how much homework should count toward a student's final grade. Knowing that time committed to homework increases as a student progresses through the grade levels, the district recommends a weight of no more than 15% for elementary and 20% for secondary.~~

### **Procedure: School Level**

~~The principal and staff at each school shall develop and annually review their school's homework plan based on the district's guidelines. Policy regarding makeup homework, how homework relates to the student's grades, and the amount of time (a specific average number of minutes) that students should be expected to spend on homework should be included in the school's homework plan.~~

~~APPROVED BY BOARD  
AND EFFECTIVE 1/16/84  
REVISED 7/7/92  
REVISED 8/21/06~~