

# Rosedale Union School District

## Homework Procedures

### I. Philosophy

The Rosedale Union Elementary School District implements homework as a research-based component of instruction that can increase students' learning, foster independence, develop study skills, and serve to strengthen the connection between the student, family, and school.

### II. Definition

Homework is defined as any learning activity completed by the student as an extension of classroom instruction. The additional practice and application of knowledge and skills deepens understanding and proficiency, thereby increasing student achievement.

### III. Types of Homework

- A. **Reflection:** A serious thought or consideration on a concept or topic already taught or discussed to express the student's depth of conceptual understanding.
- B. **Practice/Review:** Practice is any activity (skill or concept) that a student is capable of completing at an independent level. Review is preparation for an upcoming assessment. Practice and review help students master specific knowledge and skills that have been presented in class.
- C. **Preparation/Pre Learning:** Homework that is designed to engage students in the knowledge and skills that they will utilize in upcoming instruction. These assignments may be used to activate prior knowledge or encourage connections to previous topics of study.
- D. **Extension:** Provide students the opportunity to elaborate, apply, or transfer knowledge or skill to a new situation.

### IV. Homework Guidelines

#### A. Teachers

The teacher will design a variety of relevant and meaningful homework assignments that reinforce classroom learning objectives. Homework shall relate directly to each student's level of conceptual mastery in such a way that they can correctly complete the task at an independent level with minimal frustration. The need for parent involvement should be kept to a minimum.

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For each grade level, the amount of time students are expected to spend on homework shall increase gradually and progressively according to maturity, capability, and needs of the individual student. Homework should not consume more effort than the following parameters allow:

- K/1st grade: 10- 20 minutes
- 2nd grade: 20 minutes
- 3rd grade: 30 minutes
- 4th grade: 40 minutes
- 5th grade: 50 minutes
- 6th grade: 60 minutes
- 7th grade: 70 minutes
- 8th grade: 70 minutes

Homework parameters are based on the average student. If a teacher is informed a student is spending an excessive amount of time on homework each night, assignments shall be differentiated for the student. Middle school teachers should take into consideration work that is being assigned in other subjects.

Assigned homework should be promptly evaluated with feedback for the student. Student performance on homework should be used to guide further instruction and may be a factor in a student's overall grade. Unfinished classwork is not a substitution for homework but may be assigned on an individual basis.

### Primary Teachers

Homework should be given daily to primary students to develop the habit of doing homework. Some examples to encourage this habit are:

- repeated reading of a book that is targeted at the independent reading level of each student to build fluency
- daily review of known math facts
- completion of a reading log using leveled books targeted to individual independent reading levels . See sample
  - [Fiction Reading Log](#)
  - [Nonfiction Reading Log](#)

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- daily review of known sight words/letter names/letter sounds/word families
- write a complete sentence/paragraph telling about something you learned in class each day (expect more complexity for individualized students)
  - [TILT \(Thing I Learned Today\)](#)
- write an explanation of the math/science/ss/reading concept learned or practiced each day

### Intermediate and Middle School Teachers

A variety of types of homework should be assigned on a regular basis. Teachers shall inform students of the purpose of assignments in relation to the types of homework listed under section III of the Rosedale Union School District's Homework Procedure. Some examples are:

- [Reflection Questions](#)
- Review/Practice Activities
  - Spelling
  - Math problems as practice
  - Study guides
- [Preparation/Pre-learn Activities](#)
- Extension Activities ([extension menus](#))

Teacher tips for student success:

- Provide students with reasons why the assignment is being assigned. Are they reviewing for an upcoming assessment? Are they working on a prerequisite skill for the next day's lesson? Are they reviewing a previously taught skill for mastery? Most intermediate students want the reasons behind why they are being asked to complete something.
- Limit the number of problems/questions to a few, but add written explanation to check for understanding
- Allow for choices.
- Offer students an opportunity to personalize their work.
- Allow students to share information about themselves or their lives.

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- Explore emotions, feelings, or opinions about a subject.
- Allow students to create products or presentations for in class use during the next day's assignment.

### B. Students

Students can take responsibility for their own homework and learning by:

1. Being aware of the school's homework policy.
2. Discussing with their parents or caregivers homework expectations.
3. Accepting responsibility for the completion of homework tasks within set time frames.
4. Following up on feedback made by teachers on homework
5. Seeking assistance when difficulties arise.
6. Organizing their time to manage home and school obligations, participation in sports and recreational activities.

### C. Parents

Guidelines for parental involvement are:

1. Monitor their child's homework assignments by checking his/her student planner and/or accessing the parent portal.
2. Check homework for completeness, quality, effort, and neatness.
3. Provide adequate time and a quiet workspace to complete homework.
4. Contact the teacher verbally, or by written communication, if your child becomes frustrated or is engaged for an unreasonable amount of time on homework.

### D. Make-Up Work

1. No student may have his/her grade reduced or lose academic credit for an **excused** absence when missing assignments and tests are satisfactorily completed within a reasonable period of time. (A reasonable period of time is defined as the student will be given one day of make-up for each day absence - Education Code 48980. Teachers may extend the make up period at their discretion).
2. The teacher of any class from which a student is suspended may require the student to complete assignments and tests missed during the suspension (Education Code 48913).