



POLICY

**Haddonfield
Board of Education**

PROGRAM

2330/Page 1 of 1
Homework

2330 HOMEWORK

The Board of Education acknowledges the educational validity of work assigned to students for completion outside the classroom as an adjunct to and extension of the instructional program of the schools.

The Superintendent shall develop regulations for the assignment of homework according to these guidelines:

1. Homework should be a properly planned part of the curriculum, extending and reinforcing the learning experience of the school;
2. Homework should help children learn by providing practice in the mastery of skills, experience in data gathering and integration of knowledge, and an opportunity to remediate learning problems;
3. Homework should help develop the student's responsibility and provide an opportunity for the exercise of independent work and judgment;
4. The number, frequency, and degree of difficulty of homework assignments should be based on the ability and needs of the student and take into account other activities that make a legitimate claim on the student's time;
5. As a valid educational tool, homework should be clearly assigned and its product carefully evaluated and that evaluation should be reported to the student;
6. The schools should recognize the role of parent(s) or legal guardian(s) by suggesting ways in which parent(s) or legal guardian(s) may assist the school in helping a child carry out assigned responsibilities;
7. Homework should always serve a valid learning purpose; it should never be used as a punitive measure.
8. In preparation for a new school year and to mitigate summer learning declines, homework may be issued over the summer break.



REGULATION

PROGRAM

**Haddonfield
Board of Education**

R 2330/Page 1 of 4
Homework

R 2330 HOMEWORK

Content of Homework

1. Any homework assigned to students during the school year or in the summer must be closely integrated with the curriculum. There should be a direct relationship between classroom studies and assigned homework. Homework should reinforce and extend the lessons learned in school.
2. Homework should help students learn by providing practice in the mastery of skills, experience in gathering information and integrating knowledge, and an opportunity to remediate learning problems.
3. Homework should help develop the student's responsibility and provide an opportunity for the student to exercise independent work and judgment.
4. The concepts on which a homework assignment is based should have been thoroughly taught and reviewed in class. Homework assignments should include only those exercises and activities that a student can accomplish independently.
5. Homework assignments should not require the use of research or resource tools that are not readily available in the students' homes or in sufficient quantity in the public or school library, or available for borrowing from the classroom.
6. Homework assignments should not require extensive copy work unless the writing of numbers or script is the skill being taught.
7. Homework must never serve a punitive or disciplinary function; learning, in school or at home, must always be a positive experience, rewarding for its own sake.

B. Assignment of Homework

1. The number, frequency, and degree of difficulty of homework assignments should be based on the ability and needs of the individual student.
2. Homework should be assigned with clarity so that students know precisely what is expected of them. It may be helpful for teachers to post the homework assignment at the beginning of the class period and to encourage students to ask questions about any aspect of the assignment they do not fully understand. Homework should never be assigned hurriedly or in a confused manner.
3. Teachers should observe the following guidelines for the introduction and assignment of homework. Time allotments include all aspects of the homework assignment--outside reading, research, drill work, and the like.



REGULATION

PROGRAM

Haddonfield Board of Education

R 2330/Page 2 of 4
Homework

a. Kindergarten

Home experiences related to classroom lessons should be assigned to students when appropriate.

b. Grades 1, 2, and 3

Formal homework assignments should be introduced in first grade. Lessons should be geared to the needs and abilities of individual students. The amount of time allocated should increase through the grades from ten forty minutes several times a week.

c. Grades 4 and 5

Homework should be regularly scheduled, should require no more than sixty minutes of preparation daily, and should be based on the needs and abilities of individual students.

d. Grades 6, 7, and 8

Homework should be regularly scheduled, should require no more than ninety minutes of preparation daily, and should be based on the needs and abilities of individual students.

In departmentalized junior high or elementary grades, students' total daily homework load and out-of-school responsibilities should be considered in determining the amount of homework to be assigned. Teachers on each grade level or team will meet once a week or as required to review time estimates of homework to be assigned. Major tests that require substantial periods of study will be taken into consideration in determining the total estimated homework load.

e. Grades 9 through 12

High school students should be assigned homework in each major academic subject on a regular basis. Periodic assignments should be given in art and music courses. Both long and short term assignments should be given in all courses. A high school student should typically devote at least ninety minutes to home study on school nights. Students may choose to spend time during weekends and vacation periods on long term assignments.

4. To the degree reasonably possible, teachers should plan and announce homework assignments, especially long term assignments, well in advance so that students can adjust their schedules appropriately.



REGULATION

PROGRAM

Haddonfield Board of Education

R 2330/Page 3 of 4
Homework

5. Students should be encouraged or required to maintain a homework assignment book, in which the student records his/her daily assignment. Students and parent(s) or legal guardian(s) may be asked to record the time necessary to complete each assignment; this information will assist teachers in verifying their estimates of the length of time a given assignment will require.
6. A teacher may accede to a parent(s) or legal guardian(s) request for additional homework assignments for a student, provided the teacher, in his/her discretion, believes that the student will benefit from the assignment.
7. A student who has been absent from school will be given an opportunity to make up homework assignments, provided the assignments are completed during a period equal to the length of his/her absence. That period may be extended for the completion of long term assignments.
8. The parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of an absent student may request homework assignments to be completed during the student's absence. Teachers are expected to comply with any such request.

C. Evaluation of Homework

1. All homework must be evaluated by the teacher and the teacher's evaluation must be communicated to the student. Homework is not a learning activity if the student receives no acknowledgment of his/her work and no appraisal or criticism of it.
2. Teachers should insist on high standards of quality in homework. The homework lesson should teach the values of thorough preparation, careful research, neat execution, thoughtful work, and prompt submission.

D. Checklist for Teachers

Teachers should be able to answer affirmatively the following questions about a homework assignment.

1. Does the homework serve a valid purpose?
2. Is it well within the capacities of the student?
3. Has the class been thoughtfully motivated for the work?
4. Does the assignment grow out of school experience?
5. Is the work related to students' interests? Is it interesting?



REGULATION

PROGRAM

**Haddonfield
Board of Education**

R 2330/Page 4 of 4
Homework

6. Does the assignment extend students' fund of information?
7. Is the work adapted to individual needs, interests, and capacities?
8. Are students entirely clear about what they are to do?
9. Can the students do the work without the assistance of parent(s) or legal guardian(s) or others?
10. Is the assignment a reasonable one and evenly scheduled in view of the student's home conditions?
11. Does the assignment minimize the temptation merely to copy information?
12. Can the homework be evaluated fairly and/or be used in the daily program?