PROPOSED CHANGES

- **BOLD print-new language**
- **Cross outs- from original policy**
- **Red: Feedback/BPC revisions**
- **Yellow: BOE recs**

INSTRUCTION
~~6.1 (2) Homework Policy~~

Homework **Policy and Guidelines** **BP 6154(a)**

The Board of Education recognizes the need for homework to develop independent study habits and to reinforce ~~basic learning skills~~ **grade level learning standards**. Homework is ~~also~~ **intended to be** a valuable extension of student learning time. Homework will be assigned to students for **any of** the following reasons:

(a) ~~Reinforcement~~ **Support** of the day's lesson;
(b) Completion of unfinished assignments;
(c) Practice **and review** for better understanding
(d) Enrichment; and
(e) Involvement of parents**/legal guardians** in ~~children's assignments~~ **students' learning and academic progress.**

Teacher's Responsibility

It is the responsibility of the teacher to inform ~~students and~~ parents**/legal guardians and students**, verbally and in writing, of homework expectations; to assign homework that is ~~in keeping with the ability level of the student and~~ related to current instruction; to assign work ~~in a consistent pattern~~ that encourages student ~~planning~~ **responsibility**; to ~~check~~ **review** homework in a **timely** ~~timely fashion~~ **manner** that ~~will~~ promote**s** student learning; and to inform students of the effect homework will have on grades ~~assigned~~ **earned**. ~~Homework expectations will be explained to students in class and to parents**/legal guardians** at the Back-to-School Night program in the fall. Homework expectations will also be sent home in writing~~ **available** ~~at the start of the **school** year.~~

Homework expectations will be explained to students in class and communicated to parents/legal guardians at the start of the school year as well as at Back to School Night in the fall.

(cf. 5145.6 – Parental Notifications)

Site Administrator Responsibility

Site Leadership, with the help of staff, shall explain the district's homework guidelines to parents/legal guardians and the community.

~~Principals~~ **Site Leadership** will work with staff to ~~see~~ **ensure** that the homework ~~policy and schedule is~~ **policy and guidelines are** implemented **for student success and** in ~~such~~ a way that students do not receive inordinate amounts of homework on any one day. ~~Building principals, with the help of staff, shall interpret the district's homework policy to parents and the community.~~

Homework **Policy and Guidelines (continued)**

Student Responsibility

It is the responsibility of the student to perform the tasks assigned by the teacher ~~in a neat, orderly manner,~~ and ~~to~~ submit assignments in the manner and time ~~prescribed~~ **required**. **Students are responsible ~~to request~~ for requesting additional clarification of homework if needed.** When a student is absent, ~~he~~ **the student** should make up assignments missed in the time agreed to with ~~his~~ **the** teacher**(s)** ~~or teachers.~~ Homework not completed ~~will~~ **may** ~~have an~~ **a**ffect ~~on~~ the grade received for the marking period.

(cf. 5113- Absences and Excuses)

Parent/Legal Guardian Responsibility

~~It is the responsibility of~~ Parent**s/legal guardians should make every effort to support their student by**:

~~to encourage their children to allocate sufficient time for the assignments to be completed. Parents should provide the child with a quiet place to work, time set aside, good lighting, and freedom from distractions such as radio, TV, tape recorders, etc. Whenever possible, parents are encouraged to assist the child when help is appropriate.~~

a. providing appropriate time and place for study
b. providing support and encouragement for student to complete homework
c. monitoring the completion and follow through of their student's homework assignments
d. providing time for reading daily at home
e. ensuring make up assignments are completed in the time agreed to by teachers
f. contacting your child's teacher if you have concerns

Procedures

These procedures shall be adhered to when assigning homework:

a. Directions for ~~doing~~ **completing** the assignment should be made clear to the student.

b. Long-term assignments such as reports and research projects may be assigned in addition to the regular homework assignments. Teachers shall make periodic checks of student progress during long-term assignments.

c. ~~In cases of a prolonged, excused absence, the teacher will provide suitable material for home study that will meet the student's particular needs~~.

Homework **Policy and Guidelines (continued)**

c. Students who miss school work because of an *excused absence* shall be given the opportunity to complete all assignments and tests that can be reasonably provided. As determined by the teacher, the assignments and tests shall be reasonably equivalent to, but not necessarily identical to, the assignments and tests missed during the absence. (Students shall receive full credit for work satisfactorily completed within a reasonable period of time.) (Ed Code 48205). Students who miss school work because of *unexcused absences* may be given the opportunity to make up missed work for full or reduced credit. Teachers shall assign such makeup work as necessary to ensure academic progress, not as a punitive measure.

d. ~~Homework is to be evaluated in a way that is profitable to the student and shall be returned to the student as soon as possible.~~

The following time guidelines recognize that:

- **Individual students complete work at different rates;**
- **It is expected that the degree of difficulty in assignments will increase with the grade level/course content and the maturity of the student;**
- **Homework will reflect the accommodations and modifications of curriculum that is stated in a student's Individualized Education Program (IEP) or Section 504 plan;**
- **Homework is to be reviewed and progress communicated to students and parents in a meaningful and timely manner;**
- **Homework assignments shall be reasonable in length and appropriate to grade/course level;**
- **Reading daily at home is expected as a way of promoting lifelong readers;**
- **Projects and activities may be included.**

e. ~~Homework assignments shall be reasonable in length and appropriate to age, ability, and grade level. A reasonable length for school assignments is~~ **~~to be assigned Monday through Thursday and on Fridays/breaks as needed, but not to exceed the following time guidelines.~~**

Homework **Guidelines**

The following lists the time guidelines by grade level:

Kindergarten – Grade 3:
Homework will be assigned Monday through Thursday and not on Fridays and during breaks as a regular practice. Reading at home is expected in addition to the approximate time guidelines below:

- ~~Approximately 15 minutes per day for~~ **K**indergarten**:** ~~students~~ **10 – 15 minutes**.
- ~~Between 15 and 30 minutes per day for students in first and second grades~~. **Grade 1: 15-20 minutes**
- **Grade 2: 20-25 minutes**
- **Grade 3: 20-**30 **25-30** minutes ~~per day for students in third and fourth grades.~~

Grade 4 – Grade 5:
Homework is assigned Monday through Thursday and on Fridays/breaks as needed, but not to exceed the following approximate daily time guidelines. Reading at home is expected in addition to these guidelines.

- **Grade 4: 40-45 minutes**
- **Grade 5: 50-55 minutes**
- ~~A minimum of 30 to 60 minutes per day for student in fifth and sixth grades.~~

Grade 6 – 8:
Homework is assigned Monday through Thursday and on Fridays/breaks as needed, but not to exceed the following approximate daily time guidelines. Reading at home is expected in addition to these guidelines.

- **In grade six, homework for each academic class will average 60 minutes weekly.**
- In **grades ~~six~~ seventh through** ~~seventh and~~ eighth ~~grades~~, homework for each academic class will average ~~at least one and one-half hours~~ **60 to 90 minutes** weekly. ~~per semester.~~ ~~All teachers may assign projects and activities instead of written work~~. **Support classes such as companion courses and other specialized courses may have different homework requirements as described in the course descriptions.**

Homework **Guidelines**

Grades 9-12:
Homework is assigned Monday through Thursday and on Fridays/breaks as needed, but not to exceed the following approximate daily time guidelines. Reading at home is expected in addition to these guidelines.

- In grades nine through twelve, homework for each academic class will average **~~two and one-half hours~~ 150 minutes** weekly. ~~per semester.~~ ~~All teachers may assign projects and activities instead of written work~~. **Support classes such as companion courses and other specialized courses may have different homework requirements as described in the course descriptions.**
  - **Advanced courses (such as Honors, AP, etc) ~~may~~ will require additional homework.**

~~Homework is to be assigned Monday through Thursday and on Friday as needed.~~
~~It is expected that the degree of difficulty in assignments will increase with the age level and the maturity of the student.~~

Legal References:

(cf. 5113 – Absences and Excuses)
(cf. 5145.6 – Parental Notifications)
(cf. 6020 – Parent Involvement)
(cf. 6164.4 – Identification of Individuals for Special Education)
(cf. 6164.6 – Identification and Education under Section 504)

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