

REGULATION — RANDOLPH BOARD OF EDUCATION

PROGRAM

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Homework Administrative Rules

R 2330 Homework Administrative Rules

- I. The purposes of homework are (1) to provide students an opportunity to practice new skills or knowledge presented in class, (2) to engage in creative thinking to extend and connect information in new ways, and (3) to provide teachers with information about how well the students are progressing on mastering concepts and skills being taught, (4) to provide students with constructive feedback.
- II. It is appropriate for a student's grade in a class to be adjusted based on completing, or failing to complete, homework assignments. However, if the content of work performed outside class is graded and recorded as evidence of class-content mastery, the assignment will be a component along with test grades, quizzes and other student assessments toward the creation of a final grade average.
- III. When teachers assign homework to students, they will make the purpose of the assignment clear.
- IV. Teachers must review all homework assigned. Some form of feedback to students about completed homework will be the normal practice.
- V. Homework Amounts
 - A. The guidelines for grades K-3 should be no longer than fifteen (15) minutes per day. For grades 4-5 no longer than forty-five (45) minutes per day. While parents are encouraged to take an interest in student homework, no homework assignment should be beyond the ability of the students in the class, thereby requiring parent assistance.
 - B. Long-term assignments are characteristic of the middle school and high school. At the middle school, the guideline for homework should be no more than sixty (60) minutes per night. Staff members will ensure homework assignments are coordinated within a team. Such assignments may include projects or term papers. One significant purpose of these assignments is to teach students to plan and manage their time in order to complete the work on schedule.

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VI. Teachers will not assign short-term homework during school recess periods, holidays or weekends adjacent to holidays and school recess periods.

A. Long-term homework projects may span holidays and recess periods but will not be due fewer than three school days after a holiday, or recess period, or the weekend adjacent to a holiday or recess period.

B. Homework will not be assigned over the summer break. Teachers may provide suggestions to families about helpful activities during the summer break to reinforce learning strengthen critical skills or prepare for the coming school year. At the high school, summer review packets may be provided to help students prepare for fall coursework. These activities will not be graded or identified as a course requirement.

VII. Electronic communications from teachers to students about homework are permissible as a back-up system or a reminder about assignments. However, they may not replace classroom communication about homework assignments. Inequities in students' access to e-mail prohibit us from relying on e-mail to students as the primary means of communication about important class information. Students may submit homework by e-mail unless the teacher determines, and announces in advance, that a particular assignment is not amenable to communication by e-mail. In consideration of students' needs for rest, deadlines for submission of homework may not be later than 9:00 p.m. or earlier than one hour before the start of the school instructional day. In the absence of a specific, teacher-imposed deadline for submission, students may submit homework via e-mail at any time.

VIII. As with other instructional issues, the primary method of resolving disputes over homework should be direct discussion with the teacher.

IX. Homework is an essential part of instruction and will be among the many aspects of performance considered in the teacher's annual performance evaluation.

Adopted: 3 October, 2007

Revised: