

QUINCY SCHOOL COMMITTEE POLICY: HOMEWORK – File 9.11.1

Quincy Public Schools, as a school community, regards homework as an integral part of the academic program.

The term homework refers to assignments which will achieve their purpose when prepared during an independent study or at home.

The purpose of homework is to improve the learning process, to aid in the mastery of skills, and to stimulate interest on the part of the student. The amount of homework considered reasonable varies with the age and grade of the student. Particular attention must be paid to a student's Individual Education Plan (IEP) and other plans.

Kindergarten and Grade One

Formal homework is not required. Home activities that may support student learning include:

- reading with the student
- discussing the school day
- involvement in projects initiated at school or home
- unstructured play time

Grade Two

0-30 minutes per night, Monday through Thursday

Grade Three

Up to 30 minutes per night, Monday through Thursday

- Formal homework started as an expectation of the student's educational program

Grade Four

Up to 45 minutes per night, Monday through Thursday

- Homework is expected to be part of the student's educational program

Grade Five

Up to 60 minutes per night, Monday through Thursday

- Homework is a well-established part of the student's educational program

Grades Six – Eight

Up to 20 minutes per subject per night, Monday through Friday

Grades Nine – Twelve*

Up to 30 minutes per subject per night, Monday through Friday

*Homework guidelines will vary for high school students who choose to enroll in college level courses including Advanced Placement (AP®).

Vacations provide an important break in the school year for students, families, teachers, and staff. Homework assignments, including test preparation, given prior to an officially scheduled vacation period should allow students sufficient time to

accomplish their assignments while allowing quality vacation time with family. Similarly, assignments that require a group of students to work together on a project should not be assigned to be completed over a vacation.

It is the responsibility of the principal to ensure that these guidelines are carried out in his or her building.

Homework Guidelines during Remote/Hybrid Learning

Elementary Level: No homework during Remote/Hybrid Learning

Elementary students will be encouraged to participate in one or more of the following activities after school dismisses:

- Read
- Play outside or exercise with a sibling
- Bake or cook with an adult
- Garden with an adult
- Put on a play or practice a musical instrument

Teachers will also encourage ideas and resources for extended at-home projects (*i.e., designing a garden, recycling projects, collecting rocks and minerals, exploring coastal environments, or learning about historical landmarks in the community, etc.*)

Middle School Level: Limited assignments during Remote/Hybrid Learning

At the middle school level, homework will be limited and will not be given on a nightly basis in every subject area. Math practice and reading assignments will be the priority. Long-term projects will be assigned periodically to give students an opportunity to apply their learning and practice with organization and time management. Outside of the school day, there will be no group projects assigned to students.

There will be no Friday homework due on Monday.

High School: Homework will be assigned during Remote/Hybrid Learning

At the high school level, students will be responsible for completing assignments required for course completion. During Remote/Hybrid learning the focus of daily homework will be problem solving and math practice, reading of novels and technical articles, reviewing videos, and working with primary sources. Students will also complete long-term assignments such as essays and independent research projects. Outside of the school day, there will be no group projects assigned to students.

Homework guidelines will vary for high school students who choose to enroll in college level courses including Advanced Placement (AP®)

There will be no Friday homework due on Monday.

Current practice codified 1990

Revised: June 2006; February 2020; September 2020