

Ockerman Elementary Site Based Policy

Ockerman Elementary School Homework

Definition:

Homework will be used to increase students' opportunities to learn. It is completed outside the classroom and is intended to provide added opportunity to practice skills, engage information, and explore topics using varied learning styles and interests. Homework assignments will include not only written assignments but also opportunities to take part in cultural and creative activities and real-world applications of learning.

Purpose:

This policy is intended to:

- Provide students with an opportunity to independently practice and reinforce skills learned in class either that day or during the current academic unit.
- Assist students in developing time-management skills.
- Assist students in developing self-reliance and responsibility skills.
- The policy does not apply to students receiving homebound instruction or whose Individualized Education Plans require that homework be addressed in a different way.

Teacher Responsibilities:

The teachers will:

1. In an age-appropriate manner, make sure that students understand this policy.
2. Assign appropriate homework on an as-needed basis that is designed to support instructional goals, and that does one or more of the following:
 - Reinforces class instruction and skills that have been taught by transferring and extending classroom instruction.
 - Increases understanding and retention.
 - Prepares for class discussion.
 - Provides opportunities for curriculum enrichment and real-world applications.
3. Assign appropriate amounts of homework per week, which may vary depending on the subject matter and students' needs with a specific due date clearly defined.

4. Makes an effort to correlate the amount of homework given with other teachers so as not to overload students on any given night. Only one at-home project can be assigned at a time across a grade level.
5. Allow student choice within homework assignments whenever possible.
6. Return collected homework in a timely manner and provide instructional follow-up and feedback that focuses on content and performance standards.
7. Ensure that students understand and can explain not only homework directions but also the purpose of any given homework assignment as well as how it relates to what they are learning in class.
8. Keep accurate records of homework assignments.
9. Thanksgiving Break, Winter Break, Spring Break and State Testing Window (for testing grades only) will be designated as a "family time" in which no mandatory homework will be assigned nor may be included in a project window.
10. Unfinished classwork, which is a result of personally mismanaged time during class, will be expected to be completed at home as homework. If this problem becomes habitual, a conference between the parent and teacher is recommended.

Principal Responsibilities:

The Principal will ensure that:

1. This policy is made readily available to teachers, parents, and students on the Ockerman Elementary webpage.
2. Ensure that additional homework is not used as a punishment (with the exception of #10 above).

Student Responsibilities:

Students are responsible for completing and turning in their homework and, with support from their parents, will be encouraged to:

1. Write down assignments and due dates, ask questions, and select necessary books and supplies before leaving school.
2. Keep homework in the same place at home each day and take books and materials directly to that study area.
3. Plan the best time to complete work.
4. Complete work so that it is neat and legible.

Parental Support:

Parents will be urged to actively involve themselves with their children's schoolwork by doing the following:

1. Showing interest with questions about and comments on the schoolwork children bring home.

2. Providing a suitable place to study that is free from disturbances and by supplying needed materials for completing homework.
3. Prompting and offering to clarify instruction and answer questions but still allowing them to complete work independently.
4. Assisting their child with time management including monitoring TV/computer/video game use.
5. Encouraging children to do their best work and praising a job well done including rewarding children in appropriate ways for completed work.
6. Checking to see that work is complete.
7. Staying in close communication with teachers.

Communication:

Students in grades K-5 at Ockerman Elementary will be issued an agenda each school year. This is the primary means of communication between students, parents, and teachers regarding homework unless otherwise specified by your child's teacher. When homework questions arise and are unable to be resolved through the agenda, the parents and teacher should communicate for the benefit of the student's achievement before it affects the student's success. Infinite Campus will be used to post grades for intermediate grades and will be accessible for students and parents.

Policy Evaluation:

We will evaluate the effectiveness of this policy through our school improvement planning process.

The Homework Policy of the Ockerman Elementary School Council's Policies was adopted on 6/27/19 and signed by the following Council Members:

<u>Keyla Gasparre</u>	<u>Kim [Signature]</u>
<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>_____</u>
<u>Brittany Bramlage</u>	<u>_____</u>
<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>_____</u>
<u>Rogina Fink</u>	<u>_____</u>

SBDM Secretary:

[Signature]
Susan Bell