

2016-2017 HOMEWORK POLICY

I. Purpose:

Homework contributes toward building responsibility, self-discipline and lifelong learning habits. It is the intention of the New West Charter staff to assign relevant, challenging and meaningful homework assignments that reinforce classroom learning objectives. Homework should provide students with the opportunity to apply information they have learned, complete unfinished class assignments, and develop independence. Homework grades are modified based on students' individual needs (i.e. IEP, 504 Plans).

Homework assignments include:

- **Practice** exercises to follow classroom instruction
- **Preview** assignments to prepare for subsequent lessons
- **Extension** assignments to transfer new skills or concepts to new situations
- **Creative** activities to integrate many skills toward the production of a response or product
- **Major Projects including** research reports, book reports, major essays, and other assignments teachers designate as major projects. (Major projects may take additional time)

II. Time

Actual time required to complete assignments will vary with each student's study habits, academic skills, and selected course load. If your child is spending an inordinate amount of time doing homework, you should contact your child's teachers.

III. Late Work Policies

Students are expected to turn work in on time and students who turn in late assignments will receive one of the following.

- **No credit**
- **Communication with parents/guardians (e-mail)**

Students who miss homework because of an **excused** absence will receive the opportunity to make up missed work. It's the students' responsibility to get work missed due to illness or absence.

Responsibilities of Staff:

- Assign relevant, challenging and meaningful homework that reinforces classroom learning
- Give clear instructions and make sure students understand the purpose
- Give feedback and/or correct homework
- Communicate with other teachers about anticipated student workload
- Provide opportunities for students to get assistance outside of class time
- Involve parents and contact them if a pattern of late or incomplete homework develops

Responsibilities of Parents/Guardians:

- Set a regular, uninterrupted study time each day
- Establish a quiet, well-lit study area
- Monitor student's organization and daily list of assignments in their agenda
- Regularly check the New West teacher pages and Powerschool websites for updates
- Help student work to find the answer, not just get it done
- Be supportive when the student gets frustrated with difficult assignments
- Contact teacher to stay well informed about the student's learning process

Responsibilities of Students:

- Write down all assignments

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- Be sure all assignments are clear; don't be afraid to ask questions if necessary
- Set aside a regular time for studying
- Find a quiet, well-lit study area that is free of distractions
- Work on homework independently whenever possible, so that it reflects student ability
- Produce quality work
- Make sure assignments are done according to the given instructions and completed on time