

# **Mt. Erie Elementary School Homework Policy**

## **THE PURPOSE OF HOMEWORK**

Homework is one of the many learning activities in which students engage; its purposes are to:

- Develop initiative, responsibility, self direction, and organizational skills.
- Extend learning and/or provide practice in applying concepts initially presented in the classroom.
- Provide opportunities for independent work and/or study.
- Strengthen concept attainment, skill development and reinforcement.
- Greater parental appreciation of and involvement in schooling.

## **GUIDELINES/TEACHER RESPONSIBILITIES**

- No assignment will be given that has not been explained in the classroom.
- Students will fully understand when the assignment is due.
- Homework will be checked for its quality, completion and for the purpose of student feedback.
- Teachers will communicate to parents about missing or incomplete assignments as needed.
- Homework, including reading, will not be assigned over weekends or school vacations.

## **TIME ALLOTMENTS**

Kindergarten – up to 20 minutes per night – Primary emphasis on reading  
Grade 1 – up to 20 minutes per night - Primary emphasis on reading  
Grade 2 - up to 20 minutes per night - Primary emphasis on reading  
Grade 3 - up to 30 minutes per night  
Grade 4 - up to 40 minutes per night  
Grade 5 - up to 50 minutes per night  
Grade 6 - up to 60 minutes per night

These times are approximate. Individual student's pace may need to be taken into consideration.

## **STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Be aware of assignments and to seek further explanation if needed.
- Record assignments.
- Organize his/her time to work on assignments.
- Turn assignments in on time.
- Work reflects high standards regarding quality and completeness.

## **PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES**

While the student should assume the major responsibility for completing homework assignments, parents are encouraged to take an active interest in the student's homework by doing the following:

- Provide a study area that is quiet, comfortable, and free from major disturbances.
- Provide a definite time for study or other home activities.
- Make available resource materials, such as reference books, magazines, newspaper, dictionary, and/or the public library.
- Monitor the child's daily and/or weekly assignment sheets/books and long-range assignments.
- Arrange with the school to secure assignments during a period of excused absence. Teachers are not responsible for providing homework for extended vacations or unexcused absences.
- Encourage the child to complete homework on their own as much as possible and assist only as needed.

## **PARENT/FAMILY ENRICHMENT SUGGESTIONS**

- Read together
- Play together
- Visit a library, museum, park
- Play games
- Limit screen time with research article connection

## **ADMINISTRATOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Include this homework policy in all teacher, parent and student handbooks
- Require teachers to communicate homework policy to students and families
- Ensure that teachers are implementing the policy with consistency
- Assist teachers when necessary with implementation
- Support staff with communication if a challenging situation arises

## **LIST OF HOMEWORK RESOURCES**

1. [www.naesp.org/report\\_to\\_parents.aspx](http://www.naesp.org/report_to_parents.aspx)
2. [www.ed.gov/teachers/how/parents/homework-tips/edlite-index.html](http://www.ed.gov/teachers/how/parents/homework-tips/edlite-index.html)
3. [www.metlife.com/teachersurvey](http://www.metlife.com/teachersurvey)
4. Center for Public Education (2007). *Research review: What research says about the value of homework.*
5. Shellard, E.G, and Turner, J.R. (2004). ERS focus on... *Homework: Research and Best Practice.*
6. Marzano, R.J. and Pickering, D. J. (2007). Errors and allegations about research on homework. *Phi Delta Kappan.* 88(7)

## **ALIGNMENT OF CORE BELIEF**

- *The Mount Erie Community believes in – Partnership with families and the community*