

# **W. B. Simpson Elementary School Homework Policy**

## *Guidelines for the Assignment of Homework and Responsibilities of Students, Staff and Parents*

### **I. Purpose:**

Homework contributes toward building responsibility, self-discipline and lifelong learning habits. It is the intention of the W.B. Simpson Elementary School 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 is modified based on students' individual needs (i.e. IEP, 504 Plans).

#### **Homework assignments may 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

### **II. Time**

Actual time required to complete assignments will vary with each student's study habits and academic skills.

- Student in grades 1-2 should spend between 15-30 minutes a night on homework.
- Students in grades 3-5 should spend between 30-45 minutes a night on homework.

If your child is spending an inordinate amount of time doing homework, you should contact your child's teachers. Students are encouraged to pursue non-assigned, independent, leisure reading.

### **III. Late Work Policies**

Students are expected to turn work in on time. Those that do will receive a PRIDE buck for completing on time. Students who do not have assignments completed when due will use recess to complete the assignment. Additional measures may be taken for students who consistently neglect to complete homework. Those may include but are not limited to

- **Missed reward activity**
- **communication with parents**

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

#### **IV. Long Term Assignments**

In addition to regular homework, teachers may assign long term assignments such as research reports, book reports, writing projects, and presentations. Work on these projects may exceed the maximum minutes per night.

#### **V. Responsibilities**

##### **Of Staff:**

- Ensure homework assignments are in the agenda book
- 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
- Involve parents and contact them if a pattern of late or incomplete homework develops

##### **Of Parents:**

- Check Agenda Book nightly
- 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
- Help provide support to ensure work is completed to find the answers, not just get it done
- Be supportive when the student gets frustrated with difficult assignments
- Contact teacher to stay well informed about the student

##### **Of Students:**

- Bring agenda book to school daily
- Ensure assignments in the Student Agenda Book
- Don't be afraid to ask questions if unclear about what has been assigned
- Set aside a regular time for studying
- Find a quiet, well-lit study area
- Work on homework independently so that it reflects your ability.
- Produce quality work.
- Make sure assignments are done according to the given instructions and completed on time.