

Homework

The foremost obligation of the educational philosophy of the Cascade Schools is to teach the fundamentals of reading, writing, speaking and mathematics with an emphasis on the usefulness and application of this information. These fundamentals often need to be reinforced with additional practice which the student will need to complete outside the classroom. With this in mind, homework is an extension of the classroom and how it relates to the mastery of a subject. Homework can be a vital part of the learning process. Students must assume responsibility for their class work just as they will assume job responsibility in the future.

Teachers provide instruction to each student so that mastery of the subject matter can occur. The assignment of homework is an outgrowth of the classroom instruction. Understanding that the nature of the subject matter being taught lends itself to different “types” of homework, the following are examples of homework assignments given to students at Cascade Public Schools:

- independent practice of newly learned skills
- expansion activities beyond the subject matter presented in class
- introduction of new materials such as reading a chapter in the text with a stated purpose of the reading
- the reworking of assignments for continuous improvement
- independent student projects, approved by the teacher

The following statements are suggestions to guide classroom teachers as they make decisions about homework:

1. Homework must be relevant to the instruction in the classroom. Homework should not be assigned for the sake of providing something for students to do after school hours.
2. Skills taught in the classroom should first be guided and practiced in the classroom under the teacher’s supervision. Independent practice of those skills can then be assigned to be done outside the classroom.
3. Homework assignments of newly learned material should be as short as possible.
4. Remember that if students don’t have an understanding of the assignment or the tasks you are asking them to do, they may be practicing incorrect tasks and operations.
5. Classroom assignments not completed by the students during the instructional day can be required homework.
6. Each Cascade teacher will explain his/her individual homework policy at open house.

Policy History:

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