

# CROWLEY ISD ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION

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**Board Policy: EIA (Local)**

**Date Effective: February 23, 2010**

**Revision Date: July 2013**

**Responsible Dept: Curriculum & Instruction**

## **RE: HOMEWORK GUIDELINES**

### **District Philosophy of Homework:**

Homework is an important aspect of the educational experience. Homework assignments can bring the home and school closer together by facilitating parent understanding of topics taught at school. The objective of homework is to assist and improve learning, and to strengthen skills and understandings gained in the classroom.

Homework allows teachers and students to cover more content, reinforces and supplements students' learning experience and fosters student initiative, independence, study habits and responsibility.

Homework should be an application or adaptation of a classroom experience. It should be used to provide feedback to the teacher *and the student* about how learning is progressing. Policy EIA (LOCAL) states that assignments, tests, projects, classroom activities, and other instructional activities shall be designed so that the student's performance indicates the level of mastery of the designated District objectives.

### **Purpose of Homework**

The purpose of homework is to provide students with a reinforcement, application and / or extension of instruction delivered in the classroom.

For the purpose of these guidelines "homework" shall be defined as any teacher assigned task intended for students to perform outside school hours.

### **Homework Guidelines and Standards**

Administrators and campus staff should develop campus homework guidelines that align with the district philosophy of homework and should insure:

- Time spent on homework should be commensurate with the age/grade of the student and is not excessive. Research recommends approximately 10 minutes per night per grade level including all subject areas. For example the **total** amount of homework assigned for PK, Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade students could be up to 10 minutes, a 6<sup>th</sup> grader up to 60 minutes, a ninth grader up to 90 minutes and so forth. Therefore, the maximum amount of time a student should spend on homework each night ranges from ten to one-hundred twenty minutes depending on the grade level of the child. Additional time may be needed for mastery and /or improvement. Additionally, Advanced Placement and dual credit courses, which are taught at a college level, may require extra time.

- Homework assignments can be differentiated based on the needs of individual students. The most common forms of differentiation include altering the difficulty of work, altering the amount of work, and/or providing student's with choices for meeting homework requirements based on learning styles. Differentiation strategies should not increase the total time students spend on homework (see previous bullet for time limit information).
- Teachers of departmentalized grades should work to coordinate homework and projects across content areas in order to ensure an appropriate balance of homework across content areas and that students are not spending excessive amounts of time on homework.
- Students are provided the family time and rest that is intended with holidays by avoiding the assignment of homework and projects over designated school holidays.
- Homework assignments should be activities that students can complete independently, within a reasonable time allotment and with minimal parent/guardian help.
- Homework is not assigned for disciplinary purposes.
- Campus homework guidelines are provided to parents in writing.

### **Summer Learning**

Teachers should encourage students to read and problem solve at all times including during the summer vacation.

Campuses may provide a suggested summer reading list that students can utilize to select a book/ books to read over the summer vacation. These may include questions and suggested activities that will seek to check for understanding and focus on the continuous improvement of specific skills that will increase the likelihood of success in advanced academic course(s).

However, summer reading and completion of enrichment activities is not mandatory. Students will not be penalized for not completing these activities; and grades for these activities may not be assigned.