

Higgins Middle School Homework Guidelines

Higgins Middle School Homework Task Force constructed the following guidelines and recommendations for HMS students in recognition of our work with students to support development of academic skills and concepts keeping these survey based ideas in mind:

- 1. Homework is viewed as affecting positive student performance.*
- 2. Homework reinforces knowledge and skills acquired in class.*
- 3. Most students complete homework on a regular basis within the allotted timeframe.*

Homework will be defined as any school work and/or academic tasks assigned to be completed outside of the scheduled class period (homework, projects, studying, unfinished classwork, etc.).

Teachers:

- Teachers will not assign homework, including projects and studying for assessments, due immediately following weekends, vacations, and other breaks in instruction (standardized testing) and will adhere to school district policy regarding religious observances.
- Assign no more than 20 minutes of homework per night, being mindful of any need to differentiate to meet individual needs of students for time to complete tasks.
- All tests and quizzes will be completed in school.
- Teachers will assign all homework and provide all instructions necessary to complete homework during the class period.
- On the homework due date, the homework will not be due prior to the beginning of class. Students will be permitted to ask for clarification, access support, and spend time on homework during Academic Support and/or REACH periods.
- Communicate with students families should homework completion be an area of concern.
- Teachers will accept late work.

Students will:

- Utilize a consistent homework recording/planning platform (agenda book, digital platform, etc.).
- Make an effort to attempt and complete all homework assigned to the best of their ability.
- Establish a routine for completing homework.
- Ask questions and utilize academic support opportunities provided (academic support, after school extra help, REACH, Homework Club, etc...).

Families will:

- Support students in accessing and monitoring homework.
- Support the student in establishing a routine for completing homework, including a space and/or time for working on homework.
- Encourage students to access support opportunities such as academic support, after school help sessions, and REACH, communicating with teachers regarding difficulties with homework as needed,
- Encourage positive, healthy academic behaviors.