

Holmes Middle School Homework Policy

Purpose of Homework:

Homework contributes toward building responsibility, self-discipline and lifelong learning habits. It is the intention of Holmes Middle School staff to assign relevant challenging and meaningful homework assignments that reinforce classroom learning targets. As appropriate, homework grades are modified based on students' individual needs (i.e. IEP, 504 Plans). The main purposes generally associated with homework are as follows:

- To give students a chance to review and practice what they have learned
- To prepare students for the next day's lesson
- To provide opportunities to identify and learn to use resources such as the library, the Internet, reference books, and other community resources
- To allow for more in-depth exploration of topics than is possible during class time
- To help students develop time management, study, and organizational skills
- To provide parents with insights into what is being taught in the classroom and the progress of their children

Expectations:

Homework is most beneficial when teacher expectations are well communicated, students take responsibility for their homework, and parents support these efforts. The responsibilities of teachers, students and parents are as follows:

Teachers:

- Informing students and parents of the homework policy
- Informing students of the purpose of their homework
- Assigning relevant, meaningful homework activities that reinforce classroom learning
- Ensuring that students are aware of what is expected of them, and how their work will be assessed
- Collaborating with other teachers to ensure students have sufficient time to complete homework
- Maintaining homework records and providing feedback to students and parents

Students:

- Being aware of the school's homework policy
- Asking questions when necessary to ensure you will be able to complete the assignment
- Recording homework assignments in your notebook to ensure you don't forget expectations
- Seeking assistance from teachers and parents if you are having difficulty with an assignment
- Completing homework neatly and accurately
- Asking for and completing homework assigned during an absence
- Completing homework independently whenever possible so it reflects your ability
- Allowing sufficient time to complete homework

Parents:

- Setting a regular, uninterrupted study time each day
- Providing a place to study
- Monitoring students record of homework assignments and ensuring completion
- Being aware of long term assignments and assisting students in learning to budget their time accordingly
- Assisting and correcting, but not doing assignments
- Contacting the teacher with any concerns over homework
- Alerting the teacher when extenuating circumstances arise that may prevent homework from being completed on time