

Santa Barbara Unified School District

Board Policy

BP 6154

Instruction

HOMEWORK/MAKEUP WORK

The Governing Board recognizes that homework contributes toward building responsibility, self-discipline and life-long learning habits, and that time spent on homework directly influences students' ability to meet the district's academic standards. The Board expects students, parents/guardians and staff to view homework as a routine and important part of students' daily lives.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that administrators and teachers develop and implement an effective homework plan at each school site. On a bi-annual basis, each school's homework plan will be submitted to the Superintendent or designee and will be shared with the Board. As needed, teachers may receive training in designing relevant, challenging and meaningful homework assignments that reinforce classroom learning objectives. Teachers' expectations related to homework may be addressed in their evaluations.

Although it is the student's responsibility to do most homework assignments independently, the Board expects teachers at all grade levels to use parents/guardians as a contributing resource. When students repeatedly fail to do their homework, parents/guardians shall be notified and asked to contact the teacher.

To further support students' homework efforts, the Superintendent or designee may establish and maintain homework support services at each school.

Makeup Work

Students who miss schoolwork because of an excused absence shall be given the opportunity to complete all assignments and tests that can be reasonably provided. As determined by the teacher, the assignments and tests shall be reasonably equivalent to, but not necessarily identical to, the assignments and tests missed during the absence. Students shall receive full credit for work satisfactorily completed within a reasonable period of time. (Education Code 48205)

Students who miss schoolwork because of unexcused absences may be given the opportunity to make up missed work for full or reduced credit. Teachers shall assign such makeup work as necessary to ensure academic progress, not as a punitive measure.

Teachers may require a suspended student to complete any assignments and tests missed during suspension. (Education Code 48913)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

48205 Absences for personal reasons

48913 Completion of work missed by suspended student

48980 Parental notifications

58700-58702 Tutoring and homework assistance program; summer school apportionment credit

Management Resources:

SBE POLICIES

Parent Involvement in the Education of Their Children, 1994

Policy Statement on Homework, 1995

SANTA BARBARA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Santa Barbara, California

May 5, 2009