

Nauset Public Schools

HOMEWORK POLICY

This policy is an attempt to find the balance between the amount of homework to promote student well-being while still attaining high levels of academic achievement for students and teachers. The Superintendent gathered feedback from students, teachers and parents to better understand the complexities of the homework issue and developed the following guidelines for teachers, parents, and students:

**Effective Homework:**

- Has a clear educational purpose
- Is connected to the instructional objectives of the class
- Checks for understanding
- Prepares the student for classroom instruction
- Reinforces skills and concepts taught in class

**Parent/Guardian Roles**

Educators recognize the value families play in supporting the learning process for their sons and daughters. Educators and administrator must work together with our families.

- Encourage and help your child find balance with their after school activities
- Provide time for independent reading
- Support your children by asking questions about their assignments
- If there are any concerns with homework, you should encourage your child to speak to the teacher or parent call the teacher

**Teacher Roles –**

- Homework should be related to instructional objectives
- Homework should take into consideration individual differences in students
- Homework should always be reviewed by the teacher and appropriate instruction should follow
- Homework can be made up with teacher assistance when student is absent
- Explain the grading guideline for each assignment

**Students –**

- Read for pleasure
- Plan short or long term assignments by using a calendar, agenda, technology, etc.
- Ask clarifying questions about an assignment
- Understands the grading guidelines for each assignment

## Homework Guidelines

Homework will not exceed the recommended guidelines below. With long-term projects, teachers will break the task into manageable sections that can be completed within these guidelines. Independent reading is always encouraged.

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Amount of Homework</u>	
K, 1	No homework other than an occasional activity at discretion of the teacher, or reading time with parent or guardian	Mon.-Thurs. Only
2	0-15 minutes per night, occasional assignments or reading time with parent or guardian	Mon.-Thurs. Only
3	10-20 minutes per night, occasional assignments or reading time with parent or guardian	Mon.-Thurs. Only
4	10-30 minutes per night or reading time with parent or guardian	Mon.-Thurs. Only
5	10-40 minutes per night or reading time with parent or guardian	Mon.-Thurs. Only
6	50 minutes per night maximum	
7	65 minutes per night maximum	
8	80 minutes per night maximum	
9 -12	½ hour to 45 minutes per class or 2 - 3 hours per night	

AP classes and IB Diploma students may require additional hours. When selecting these courses, parents/guardians and students should be mindful that self-discipline, judgment and the ability to manage time effectively will be necessary for success. Opting into an honors or AP course may lead to more time/effort being required to complete assigned homework. Only AP/IB Diploma courses could have summer homework assigned to be completed prior to the start of the school year.

In addition to homework assignments by the teachers, all students are encouraged to read for pleasure. Research shows reading expands knowledge in so many ways. As reading skills improve, students tend to want to read more.

## Calendar

- No homework is to be assigned on 3-day weekends (Columbus Day, Veterans' Day, Martin Luther King Day, and Memorial Day)
- No homework is to be assigned during school vacations (Thanksgiving, December, February, and April breaks)  
This time is for family or activities for the family.
- No summative assessment will be given upon the first day students return from vacation.

Teachers should give students advance notice of long-term assignments. This notice will allow students to manage their time and obtain the resources to do their best work. Teachers will attempt to communicate across disciplines to coordinate the due dates of major assignments. There is difficulty in avoiding concurrent assignments at all times. When this happens, students are encouraged to speak to their teacher(s) directly.

*Adopted by: Brewster School Committee August 15, 2019, Eastham School Committee – September 23, 2019, Orleans School Committee September 23, 2019, Wellfleet School Committee September 10, 2019, and Region School Committee August 8, 2019*