

## **Instruction**

### **Homework**

The Board recognizes the many benefits of homework assignments to augment the classroom learning experience and issues this policy to ensure that guidelines for assigning homework at various levels are established by the administration.

The classroom remains as the primary instructional center in the system, and each program should seek to use the allotted classroom time and available school facilities to the fullest extent to achieve the curriculum objectives. Homework which is relevant to the program objectives may be assigned when it is a necessary and effective means to augment the classroom learning experience and to provide an opportunity for independent study.

The amount of required homework and the frequency of homework assignments must be justifiable, with consideration being given both to the age of the student and his personal time endeavors such as after-school jobs, assorted extracurricular and recreational activities, and voluntary and self-motivated reading or study. Homework assignments should not depend on essential resources other than those available in the school.

The administration is authorized to establish homework guidelines for the system which are consistent with this policy.

Legal Reference:      Connecticut General Statutes

10-221 Boards of education to prescribe rules, policies and procedures

Policy adopted:      January 17, 2012

PUTNAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Putnam, Connecticut

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#### **Guidelines**

Homework should be educationally meaningful, reasonable and serve the needs of the learner. Homework should reflect the following purposes.

1. At the primary level, completion of homework should be a shared parent, teacher, student experience with the end product being a reflection of primarily the student's effort. As the student progresses in school, homework becomes a student's independent activity and the parents' obligation becomes ascertaining its completion.
2. Assignments should vary in scope and content, i.e. complex tasks, skill based, long term, short term.
3. Time, duration and content of homework should relate to the age, grade, pacing and developmental level of students.
4. Homework should help students develop organizational and study skills.
5. Homework assignments should encourage students to become independent learners and critical thinkers as well as develop students' initiative, self-direction, and a sense of responsibility.
6. Homework assignments will be used to reinforce previously taught skills and not used to teach new ones; nor should homework be given as a punishment.
7. Homework should be explained to students, be meaningful, carefully planned, and the quality of the product evaluated promptly by the teacher.
8. Extra curricular activities take a secondary role to homework.

#### **Recommended Homework Schedule**

##### **Kindergarten – Grade 8**

<b><u>Grade</u></b>	<b><u>Assignments Per Week</u></b>	<b><u>Time Allocations</u></b>
K	2-3	5-10 minutes
1	2-3	10 minutes
2	2-3	15 minutes/night
3	2-3	20 minutes/night
4	3-4	20-30 minutes/night
5	3-4	15-45 minutes/night
6	4-5	45-90 minutes/night
7	4-5	45-90 minutes/night
8	4-5	45-90 minutes/night

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### **Recommended Homework Schedule**

#### **Grades 9 – 12 Recommended Guidelines**

Homework should be regularly assigned as follows: 30-45 minutes per academic class, three to four times per week. Homework should be coordinated among departments to avoid the possibility of major projects/assignments sharing a mutual due date.

<u><b>Grade</b></u>	<u><b>Minutes Per Night</b></u>
Grade 9	60 - 135 minutes
Grade 10	60 - 135 minutes
Grade 11	75 - 150 minutes
Grade 12	75 - 150 minutes

### **Homework Procedures**

Homework should be:

1. regularly assigned according to the above recommended homework schedule
2. clearly stated
3. regularly monitored
4. promptly corrected
5. promptly returned

Homework should include drill and practice, application of concepts and skills, and preparation for subsequent classroom assignments.

It is the responsibility of the Principal to administer this policy for the students enrolled in his/her building. Teachers should assign homework according to these administrative regulations.

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Regulation approved: January 17, 2012

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