

**SECTION 3.24 HOMEWORK**

**Homework Guidelines**

Homework is defined as the time students spend outside the classroom in assigned learning activities. The Board believes the purpose of homework should be to practice, reinforce, or apply acquired skills and knowledge. The Board also believes, as research supports, that moderate assignments completed and done well are more effective than lengthy or difficult ones poorly done. Homework serves to develop regular study skills and the ability to complete assignments independently. The Board further believes completing homework is the responsibility of the student, and as students mature they are more able to work independently. Therefore, parents play a supportive role through monitoring completion of assignments, encouraging students' efforts, and providing a conducive environment for learning. Parents are encouraged to inform the teacher of any problems with the student and their homework.

The Board believes homework should be designed to:

- Place a strong emphasis on reading.
- Apply writing skills.
- Practice previously taught mathematics skills.
- Consider individual student needs, learning styles, and abilities in order for students to complete their homework.
- Relate to the grade level standards and learning objectives as a direct extension of classroom instruction.
- Include clear instructions and performance expectations so students can complete independently.
- Be assigned regularly and be assigned in reasonable amounts.
- Provide timely feedback for the student.
- Set high expectations regarding the quality of work.

The Board encourages the staff at each school to collaborate around issues of homework to create best practices and consistency among teachers in accordance with PUSD Administrative Procedure Section 3.24.1.

**Make-up Work**

Students shall be given the opportunity to make up school work missed because of an excused absence or suspension and shall receive full credit if the work is turned in according to a reasonable make-up schedule.

Students who miss schoolwork because of unexcused absences may be given the opportunity to make up missed work.

Students will be allowed full make up privileges without penalty for any work missed during observance of major religious holidays in accordance with PUSD Board Policy Section 3.25.1.