

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION

No. 214

**Board of Trustees
Douglas County School District**

PROGRAM

HOMEWORK

District staff members should adhere to the following guidelines when assigning homework:

1. Homework should be a properly planned part of the curriculum, extending and reinforcing the learning experience of the school.
2. Homework should help children learn by providing practice in the mastery of skills, experience in data gathering and integration of knowledge, and an opportunity to remediate learning problems.
3. Homework should help develop the student's responsibility by providing an opportunity for the exercise of independent work and judgment.
4. Whenever possible, homework should be tailored to meet the specific needs of individuals or small groups of students.
5. As a valid educational tool, homework should be clearly assigned and its product carefully evaluated by the appropriate instructor.
6. The schools should recognize the role of parents by suggesting ways in which parents may assist the school in helping a child carry out assigned responsibilities.
7. Homework should always serve a valid learning purpose; it should never be used as a punitive measure.
8. Difficult or new work should be thoroughly taught before homework is assigned. Assignments should be started in the classroom under supervision prior to being sent home as homework.
9. Homework should be assigned within reasonable time limits and with due consideration of the availability of resources needed for completion

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Homework is to be assigned to students for a specific amount of time each week. The amount of time devoted to homework will increase as students mature and progress through the grade levels of the District. The following provides a weekly homework time schedule for grades kindergarten through six:

WEEKLY TIME SCHEDULE

20 to 40 minutes	Grade Kindergarten
40 to 80 minutes	Grades One through Three
60 to 120 minutes	Grades Four through Six

With respect to grades seven through twelve, the amount of homework assigned will typically exceed the amount noted above for the upper elementary grades. Given the wide range of classes students attend in the departmentalized middle and high school programs, it is not feasible to specify a uniform time allocation for homework. However, it is essential that homework be assigned in a manner which will foster maximum student achievement and, whenever possible, represent a coordinated activity within and between the instructional departments to minimize overloading or underloading of outside assignments.

[See Policy related to this Administrative Regulation](#)

Revised: 12/84
Revised: 03/04/91
Revised: 12/05/17