

**Policy 6154: Homework/Makeup Work**

Status: DRAFT

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The Governing Board recognizes that meaningful homework assignments can be a valuable extension of student learning time, provide enrichment, and assist students in developing good study habits. Homework and/or makeup work shall be assigned when necessary to support classroom lessons, enable students to complete unfinished assignments, or review and apply academic content for better understanding. Homework has a clear purpose and provides an opportunity for students to practice previously taught skills and use acquired knowledge. Homework should support and enhance learning, provide students and teachers with feedback on student mastery of previously taught material and should be appropriate to a student's needs and abilities.

Students may use technology to assist with homework and/or makeup work in conducting research, correcting grammar and spelling, and learning from educational applications such as tutoring systems and language learning applications, as specified in Board Policy 5131.9 - Academic Honesty and Board Policy 6163.4 - Student Use of Technology.

The Superintendent or designee shall collaborate with school administrators and teachers to develop and regularly review guidelines for the assignment of homework and the related responsibilities of students, staff, and parents/guardians.

SJUSD recognizes the value of adequate sleep, unstructured time and extracurricular activities for its students. Homework should not place an undue burden on students. The Board mandates that no homework, including extra credit, may be given during the non-instructional days between semester one and semester two. Furthermore, the homework, including extra credit, assigned over the fall, winter and spring vacation weeks shall not exceed what is normally assigned in a single night of homework. Long-term projects may not be due until the Friday following the week of vacation.

The SJUSD instructional calendar has been created to allow for optimum performance of students by inserting a break every six weeks. This time is meant to be free of class work, allowing students and staff a respite from course work.

Assignments should have a clear purpose and be designed for completion within a reasonable time frame. Homework is the responsibility of the student, while families monitor, encourage and provide a conducive learning environment.

Homework assignments shall be reasonable in length and appropriate to the grade level and course. The Board expects that the number, frequency, and degree of difficulty of homework assignments will increase with the grade level and the maturity of students. Teachers shall assign homework only as necessary to fulfill academic goals and reinforce current instruction.

As needed, teachers may receive training in designing relevant homework assignments that reinforce classroom learning objectives.

### Homework

Although on-time completion of homework is important to maintain academic progress, the Board recognizes that students learn at different rates. Schools will develop policies around acceptance of work that is completed late in order to encourage their continued learning.

Age-appropriate instruction may be given to help students allocate their time wisely, meet their deadlines, learn to work independently, and develop good personal study habits.

At the beginning of the school year, teachers shall communicate homework expectations to students and their parents/guardians. Homework guidelines also shall be included in student and/or parent handbooks. These communications shall include the manner in which homework relates to achievement of academic standards and course content, the impact of homework assignments on students' grades, any school resources and programs that are available to provide homework support, and ways in which parents/guardians may appropriately assist their children.

Although it is the student's responsibility to undertake assignments independently, parents/guardians may serve as a resource and are encouraged to ensure their child's homework assignments are completed. Students may also work with other students and use approved outside resources as directed by the teacher.

To further support students' homework efforts, the Superintendent or designee may establish and maintain electronic forums, provide access to school library media centers and technological resources, and/or provide before-school and after-school programs where students can receive homework assistance from teachers, volunteers, and/or student tutors. The Board encourages the Superintendent or designee to design class and transportation schedules that will enable students to make use of homework support services.

Teachers shall review all completed homework to assess the student's understanding of academic content and shall provide timely feedback to the student.

If a student repeatedly fails to complete homework, the teacher shall notify the student's parents/guardians as soon as possible so that corrective action can be taken prior to the release of any final grades or report cards.

### Makeup Work

Students who are absent from school work because of an excused or warranted 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)

The Superintendent or designee shall notify parents/guardians that no student may have his/her grade reduced or lose academic credit for any excused absence when missed assignments and tests are satisfactorily completed within a reasonable period of time. Such notification shall include the full text of Education Code 48205. (Education Code 48980)

The teacher of any class from which a student is suspended may require the student to complete any assignments and tests missed during the suspension. (Education Code 48913)

### Suspended Students

When a parent/guardian of a student who has been suspended for two or more school days requests homework that the student would otherwise have been assigned, the student's teacher shall provide such homework. If a homework assignment is requested and is turned in to the teacher by the student either upon the student's return from suspension or within the timeframe originally prescribed by the teacher, whichever is later, and is not graded before the end of the academic term, the homework assignment shall not be included in the calculation of the student's overall grade in the class. (Education Code 48913.5)

The teacher of any class from which a student is suspended may require the student to complete any assignments and tests missed during the suspension. (Education Code 48913)

**Policy Reference Disclaimer:** These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State	Description
Ed. Code 46120	<a href="#">Expanded Learning Opportunities Program</a>
Ed. Code 48205	<a href="#">Absence from school for jury duty or precinct board service</a>
Ed. Code 48913	<a href="#">Completion of work missed by suspended student</a>
Ed. Code 48913.5	<a href="#">Suspended students; homework assignments</a>
Ed. Code 48980	<a href="#">Parent/Guardian notifications</a>
Ed. Code 56341.1	<a href="#">Assistive technology devices for a student with a disability</a>
Ed. Code 8420-8428	<a href="#">21st Century High School After School Safety and Enrichment for Teens</a>
Ed. Code 8482-8484.65	<a href="#">After School Education and Safety Program</a>

**State**

Ed. Code 8484.7-8484.9

**Description**

[21st Century Community Learning Centers](#)

**Federal**

20 USC 1401

**Description**

[Assistive technology device; definition](#)

20 USC 7171-7176

21st Century Community Learning Centers

**Management Resources**

CSBA Publication

**Description**

[Research-Supported Strategies to Improve the Accuracy and Fairness of Grades, Governance Brief, July 2016](#)

USDOE Office of Educational Technology Publication

[Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Teaching and Learning: Insights and Recommendations, May 2023](#)

Website

[Metropolitan Educational Research Consortium](#)

Website

[CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services](#)

Website

[California State Parent Teacher Association](#)

Website

[CSBA](#)

**Cross References**

1240

**Description**

[Volunteer Assistance](#)

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[Volunteer Assistance](#)

1700

[Relations Between Private Industry And The Schools](#)

3541

[Transportation Routes And Services](#)

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[Staff Development](#)

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[Staff Development](#)

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[Parent Rights And Responsibilities](#)

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[Parent Rights And Responsibilities](#)

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[Absences And Excuses](#)

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[Absences And Excuses](#)

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[Grades/Evaluation Of Student Achievement](#)

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[Grades/Evaluation Of Student Achievement](#)

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[Academic Honesty](#)

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[Suspension And Expulsion/Due Process](#)

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[Parent/Guardian Notifications](#)

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[Child Care And Development](#)

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[Before/After School Programs](#)

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[Academic Standards](#)

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[Parent Involvement](#)

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**Cross References**

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**Description**[Recognition Of Religious Beliefs And Customs](#)[Recognition Of Religious Beliefs And Customs](#)[Service Learning/Community Service Classes](#)[Individualized Education Program](#)[Individualized Education Program](#)[Library Media Centers](#)[Student Use Of Technology](#)[Student Use Of Technology](#)[Weekend/Saturday Classes](#)[Summer Learning Programs](#)