



DRAFT HOMEWORK POLICY

SECTION 1. BEN FRANKLIN ACADEMY

MISSION

The mission of Ben Franklin Academy is to develop young adults with character like America's founding Renaissance man, Benjamin Franklin: well-read, scientifically curious, and civically engaged.

VISION

Our students will excel academically through a challenging, sequenced curriculum that emphasizes math, science, and literacy. We will be a data driven institution, focusing on individual students. Our students, teachers, parents, staff, and leaders will be held accountable for the success of our school. Finally, we recognize that an education is incomplete without fostering the arts, sports, nature, and character.

PURPOSE

Ben Franklin Academy will implement an academically rigorous curriculum in a balanced fashion. Homework is an integral part of the academic program of the school. This documents seeks to define the balance between these oft competing policies.

SECTION 2. HOMEWORK

Homework contributes toward building responsibility, self-discipline, and lifelong learning habits. It is the intention of the Academy staff to assign relevant, challenging, and meaningful homework assignments that reinforce classroom learning objectives daily. Homework should provide students with the opportunity to apply information they have learned, complete unfinished class assignments, and develop independence. Homework grades are modified based on students' individual needs (i.e. IEP, 504 Plans).

Parents may need to assist their children with homework assignments from time to time. It is important for parents to assist in drill assignments and oral reading at home. The responsibility for good academic behavior rests on the individual student and his/her parents. It is critically imperative that parents assist the school in promoting, developing, and maintaining that good academic behavior.

Parents should supervise homework by providing a consistent place and time for completion, answer questions the student asks, and review the homework for accuracy and completeness. Students are expected to perform the work independently, but also should ask questions if clarification is needed.

Projects relating to subjects introduced in the classroom are occasionally assigned to allow the student to further investigate a specific topic. Parents and students are encouraged to work

together to create presentations of this kind. While skills such as time management and research planning are introduced in class, parents should expect to help the child implement these goals.

TIME

Actual time required to complete assignments will vary with each student’s study habits, academic skills, and selected course load. If your child is spending an inordinate amount of time doing homework, you should contact your child’s teachers. Our basic expectation for homework is as follows:

- K-1st Grade- 10 minutes every night
- 2nd-3rd Grade- 20-30 minutes every night
- 4th-5th Grade- 40-50 minutes every night
- 6th Grade- 60-70 minutes every night

Students are encouraged to pursue non-assigned, independent, leisure reading.

LATE WORK

The Academy emphasizes direct teacher instruction; thus missing school for reasons other than illness, emergency, family matters, religious observation, or medical appointments is strongly discouraged.

Although students can make up the assignments the benefit of direct instruction and classroom discussion cannot be replaced. It is the student’s and parent’s responsibility to check the Academy website for up to date homework assignments. The student’s assignments from an absence will be due two school days after the first school day back in attendance.

MAJOR PROJECTS

Major Projects include research reports, book reports, major essays, science projects, and other assignments teachers designate as major projects. Work on these projects may exceed the maximum minutes per night.

POLICY HISTORY:

Original: approved by the board XXXXX