

# Riverdale School District 51J

Code: **IKB**  
Adopted: 4/11/05  
Readopted: 8/14/06  
Orig. Code(s): IKB

## Homework

The district recognizes the positive correlation between purposeful homework and student achievement. Homework, for the purposes of this policy, refers to an assignment to be prepared during a period of supervised study, or which otherwise requires individual work within or outside of the school day.

The responsibility for an effective homework program is shared by the school, staff, parents and students. Administrators will make policy recommendations to the Board and ensure policy compliance. Teachers will relate the goals and objectives for homework assignments; provide clear and appropriate directions; tie assignments to classroom learning; furnish students with appropriate background knowledge and skills to complete assignments; and respond to student work in a timely manner. Parents will support students by providing adequate time, space, materials and encouragement. Students will assume responsibility to complete and submit homework assignments on the appropriate due dates or as arranged with individual teachers.

Homework assignments will vary in length, type and complexity to account for students' developmental levels. Homework should serve the following purposes:

1. Complete work assigned to supplement lessons;
2. Reinforce practice, skill-building, and application of knowledge, or to deepen understanding through the use of higher level, critical thinking skills;
3. Provide additional time for research projects or long-term assignments;
4. Enrich regular class work, gain extra credit, or pursue honors;
5. Make-up assignments missed because of an absence; and/or
6. Support active learning, not to be used as consequences for misbehavior.

As a general guideline, the district supports best-practices research that establishes the following ranges of time as appropriate expectations for a student's total daily homework quantity:

1. Primary Grades (K-3): 10 to 30 minutes;
2. Intermediate Grades (4-6): 30 to 60 minutes;
3. Middle School Grades (7-8): 60 to 120 minutes;
4. High School Grades (9-12): 60 to 180 minutes.

Every effort will be made to ensure that homework assignments take into consideration students' differences, interests and abilities, as well as the educational resources available to the student at school and in the home. Homework should also be developed with a recognition of other activities present in the life of each student (e.g. participation in school activities, family commitments, vacation periods, and religious and cultural affiliations).

It is understood that individual students will have different needs. Students with special needs will receive appropriate modifications as designated by active Individual Education (IEP), 504, Talented and Gifted (TAG), or other instructional plans. All students and parents are encouraged to talk directly with teachers about any concerns they have regarding the quantity or quality of homework assignments.

Note that homework, as an extension of classroom learning, is not intended to fill in gaps due to extended absences. In the cases of prolonged illness or other extenuating circumstances which require students to be out of school for more than seven school days, families need to work with their respective school(s) to develop an independent study plan.

END OF POLICY

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**Legal Reference(s):**

[ORS 332.107](#)

[OAR 581-022-1670](#)