

# Meadow Park Elementary Homework Policy

## Purpose

The administration and instructional staff of Meadow Park Elementary recognize that homework is an integral part of an instructional program. It has different purposes at different grade levels. Homework for younger students is designed to develop positive attitudes and work habits. It provides older students with opportunities to refine and extend their content knowledge. Teachers can use these practices as powerful instructional tools.

## Guidelines for Quantity of Homework

Research is clear that the effectiveness of homework in improving student performance increases with the age of the child. Research also suggests that the quantity and type of homework must be well-planned, age-appropriate and provide a meaningful opportunity for learning enhancement. It can be used to prepare students for new learning, to check for understanding, or to practice a skill or process. Based on this research homework will be assigned using the following guidelines.

Grade	Minutes per day	Grade	Minutes per day
K	0 – 15 minutes	3	30 – 45 minutes
1	10 – 20 minutes	4	40 – 60 minutes
2	20 – 30 minutes	5	50 – 75 minutes

It is acknowledged that activities such as independent and recreational reading, practicing a musical instrument, sports practice and other extracurricular activities are essential for improving student performance. These types of activities are generally expected to be completed in addition to study skill, review and other content area homework.

## Student's Responsibility

- record homework assignments on a daily basis in their planner or carry assignments home in a designated folder.
- have a clear understanding of the assignment before leaving school.
- have all materials necessary to complete assignments at home.
- turn in assignments when requested.

## Parents' Responsibility

- provide a place for completion of homework.
- supervise homework, but not do it for the student.
- allow time for student to complete homework.
- communicate with teacher any difficulties or concerns about homework assignments.
- check to see that all assignments have been completed.
- provide basic materials necessary to complete assignments.

\*Research used in the development of this policy:

Checkley, Kathy, *When Homework Works*, Alexandria, VA: Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, 2003.

Marzano, Robert; Pickering, Debra; Pollock, Jane, *Classroom Instruction That Works: Research Based Strategies for Increasing Student Achievement*, Alexandria, VA: Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, 2001.