



SUNSET ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HOMEWORK POLICY



In accordance with the Miami-Dade County Public Schools Homework Policy (Board Policy 2330), homework is an essential component of the learning process. While homework should provide opportunities for students to reinforce what is taught in the classroom, the assignments should be based on learning outcomes that build students' conceptual understanding, develop thinking skills, and focus on the application of knowledge. Homework assignments should engage students in purposeful, relevant learning that meets their academic needs, with assignments emphasizing quality and depth over length and repetition. Homework is not to be assigned as punishment.

Homework should reflect grade, age, and learner-appropriate levels with assignments that are aligned to the standards for learning in the subject area or course. Homework assignments for exceptional students should accommodate the special needs of such students.

In general, homework assignments should be completed for the following day, but teachers may opt to set due dates over more days. Long-range assignments and/or project-based learning assignments should provide students with an opportunity to develop and refine research and independent study skills, embedding the use of technology, as applicable. As customary, teachers will plan collaboratively to assign relevant, meaningful homework and advise students of daily homework.

The recommended minutes below include assignments for all basic subject areas and teachers collectively per school day and apply to all International Education (IE) students at Sunset Elementary. **Due to the nature of the International Studies (IS) Magnet Program, magnet students participate in an extended school day, with up to two additional foreign language teachers; therefore, magnet students may require additional homework time beyond the recommended minutes.**

Recommended Minutes for Basic Subjects:

- K-1: thirty (30) minutes
- 2-3: forty-five (45) minutes
- 4-5: sixty (60) minutes

These times do not reflect the additional thirty (30) minutes required for reading. Reading is a universal skill that relates to all subjects. When specific homework assignments are not given, or when the homework assignment is completed in an expeditious manner, every student will read, minimally, for 30 minutes as specified in this policy.

Below please find Board Rule expectations for teachers, students, and parents.

Teachers shall:

- teach independent study skills that are appropriate to the students' age, ability and grade level;
- make specific assignments that are aligned to the standards and expectations for the grade/course and the academic needs of students;
- check, review, evaluate and/or grade student homework, according to the teacher's individual methods and in keeping with a system that is clearly explained to the students and parents;
- give feedback on homework assignments in a timely manner; and

- make instructions related to homework clear and provide, when necessary, a short period of supervised study or a period of questioning to ensure that the students understand the assignment.

Students shall:

- complete assigned homework as directed;
- return homework to the teacher by the designated time;
- submit homework assignments which reflect careful attention to detail and quality of work; and
- devote thirty (30) minutes or more of reading each day in addition to any other assigned homework.

Parents shall:

- encourage and support the child in the performance of homework assigned, ensuring that the child has an adequate environment that is conducive to studying and completing homework;
- indicate an interest about assignments and assist if possible when requested by the child, but not to include performing the work for the child;
- support the school in the students' assigned homework and communicate with the school if a student's homework assignments appear excessive, too difficult, or not sufficiently challenging;
- request assignments for students when short term absences are involved;
- assist the school in stressing the importance of reading and its benefits; and
- assure that students read for a period of thirty (30) minutes or more each day in addition to any other assigned homework.

Note: Please be mindful, deliveries of forgotten homework assignments or projects will not be accepted in the front office. Please contact your child's teacher to let them know that work will be late and brought by the student on the following school day.