

HOMEWORK

State College Area High School Homework: Foundational Beliefs and Expectations

Belief Statement:

State College Area High School believes that homework is an important and valuable part of the educational process. Homework is a part of the learning process, as preparation and practice for the instruction that takes place in the classroom. Cooperation and communication between students, teachers and parents is necessary to ensure the success of our students.

Purpose:

Homework is designed to review and to apply the concepts and content learned in the classroom, to prepare for assessments, and to introduce important content for upcoming lessons. Homework should be an opportunity for students to challenge themselves to reveal their learning and roadblocks.

For Students:

- Homework is an opportunity for students to engage in self-reflection and to assess their own understanding.
- Maintaining a calendar of assignments and due dates correlates with higher levels of assignment completion.
- Seeking clarification and feedback from teachers when confused or unclear about homework and/or expectations can improve student success.
- Homework typically takes longer, and may not be as effective, when completed while students are engaging with social media and other technology prone to cause distraction.

For Teachers:

- Homework should be meaningful and purposeful and respectful of students' time.
- Timely communication regarding academic needs and success to parents/guardians helps to ensure student growth.
- It is important to maintain accurate records weekly and electronic resources pertaining to the current unit of study. Students must be able to access course information and assignments electronically.
- Teachers interact with every student to better understand student learning.
- Feedback is necessary as a way to assist students and instructors in identifying areas of growth and areas of academic need.
- Teachers should clearly communicate end of unit dates electronically in order for parents, support staff, and students to successfully meet deadlines.

For Parents:

- It is most effective when parents and guardians consistently provide a supportive environment for students to work independently.
- Parents and guardians can be meaningful partners in helping students learn to allocate their time wisely, meet their deadlines, and develop good personal study habits.
- Open communication between parents and students regarding homework is an important part of the educational process. Parents are encouraged to address any concerns related to the course/homework directly with the instructor.
- For additional information, please visit our [Academic Center for Enrichment](#) website.

Student Make Up Work Procedure:**Excused Absences**

In the event that a student is absent from class for an excused absence, the student will make arrangements to submit his/her work, take a test/quiz, and get assignments that were missed.

- It is the student's responsibility to check teacher websites and / or contact the teacher for work. Students are expected to make up all work missed within a time period not to exceed the total number of days absent from that specific class, unless other arrangements have been made with the instructor. Students who only missed class on the day of the assessment (test/quiz) should plan to take the assessment upon returning to class, unless other arrangements have been made with the teacher. Thereafter, a 10% deduction may be taken for each class meeting day the assignment / assessment is late following the student's absence from class.
 - Example: Student is out Monday (A), Tuesday (B), and Wednesday (A). Student will get A day work on Friday, and it will be due two classes later on Thursday. Student will get B day work on Thursday, and it will be due Monday.
 - Students are strongly encouraged to make up missed work and keep up with assignments while they are out.
 - Extensions may be given at the discretion of the classroom teacher.

Unexcused Absences

If a student cuts class and is unaccounted for in the attendance system s/he may not earn higher than half of the credit for an assignment/assessment that was given on the day of the absence. All assignments and assessments must be turned in by the conclusion of the unit in which the assignment was given. Teachers are empowered to use their discretion and may choose to modify this procedure if doing so provides an academic benefit to the student(s).

Late Work

It is the expectation that all students will turn in assignments on the given due date.

Late work is an assignment not turned in by the established due date/class period. Ten percent may be deducted for each class period that the assignment is late. A student who turns in the assignment more than three class periods past the due date may receive no less than half of the credit that they earned on the assignment. In order to receive credit for late work a student must turn in any late work by the end of the scheduled unit (final summative assessment) in which the assignment was given. Assignments not turned in by the completion of the unit will be recorded as a zero. Teachers are empowered to use their discretion and may choose to modify this procedure if doing so provides an academic benefit to the student(s).