

Homework survey for parents—short version

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The purpose of this survey is to learn more about homework practices in your school and to find out your opinions about homework. Teachers and students will also be asked to complete surveys. All surveys are anonymous.

Basic information

Grade level of child _____

Sex of child _____

Does your child receive special education services? Yes No I don't know

Does your child participate in the gifted program? Yes No I don't know

Time spent on homework

1. On average, how much time does your child spend on homework on weekday evenings?

2. On average, how much time does your child spend on homework on weekends?

3. What do you feel is an appropriate amount of homework for your child's grade level?

4. How do you feel about weekend homework and homework over holiday vacations?

5. How much control should parents have over the amount of homework their child has?(check all that apply to your child)

I should be able to request a limit on the amount of homework.

I should be able to request additional homework for my child.

I should be able to excuse my child from homework when I feel it is necessary.

Other _____

Purpose or value of homework

6. How often do you understand the value of the homework assignment to your child's learning?

7. How often does the homework appear to be busy work?

Difficulty of homework/child's work habits

8. Can your child complete homework on their own without your help or supervision?

Yes, but they don't want to

Yes, usually

Yes, always

Not usually

Never

Other _____

9. Does your child have special needs or special circumstances that influences their ability to complete homework? (check all that apply to your child)

My child takes medication for school which has worn off before homework is done.

My child needs a lot of "downtime" to relax after a hard school day.

My child has many responsibilities at home that leave little time for homework.

My child is involved in many outside activities that leave little time for homework.

My child spends little time at home on weekdays due to extended day care, babysitters, or visitation with non-custodial parents.

Other _____

10. If your child has difficulty working alone to what do you attribute the problem?

My child is easily frustrated

There are too many distractions

My child is tired/unable to focus

- My child resents having to work at home
- Homework directions are not clear
- The assignment is too hard
- Other _____

11. Does your child have organizational problems related to homework?

- They don't realize they have homework
- They forget to write the assignment down
- They forget to bring home books or materials
- They complete homework but forget to turn it in or lose track of it
- Other _____

12. What resources do you have at home to assist your child in doing homework?

- A quiet place for them to work
- Dictionary
- Encyclopedia
- Internet access
- An adult with time to help

13. How involved are you in your child's homework? Please check all statements that apply to you.

- I don't get involved in my child's homework.
- I check to see that my child's homework is done.
- I have corrected my child's mistakes on homework.
- I have completed homework for my child just to get it done.
- I sometimes have trouble helping my child because I don't understand the directions.
- I sometimes have trouble helping my child because I don't understand the material.
- I'm not sure *how much* I should help my child with homework.
- I have occasionally prohibited my child from doing homework because it interfered with sleep or family time.
- Other _____

14. What could teachers do to make the homework process better and less stressful for your child? (Check all that you agree with)

- Stop giving homework altogether.
- Give less homework.
- Make homework optional or for extra credit.
- Make sure my child has written down the homework assignment.
- Make sure the child understands the homework
- Provide a copy of the textbook to keep at home.
- Give clearer instructions to students about homework
- Set a maximum amount of time the child should work on each assignment
- Prioritize assignments in case the child does not have time to complete all homework.
- Give assignments further in advance of the due date.
- Give students more than one day to complete assignments.
- Make assignments accessible from home by the use of homework phoneline or website.
- Allow parents to call the teacher at home when necessary.
- Let parents know how homework is graded and what percentage it is of the total quarter grade.
- Give parents guidance on how to help with homework and how much to help.
- Provide a cover sheet that encourages parents to communicate about homework in writing to the teacher.

15. It would be helpful for your child's teacher to know how homework fits into your child's daily schedule. Please complete the homework card on the next page by writing down how your child typically spends their time in the weekday hours when they are not in school (ie: homework, sports practices, music lessons, visitation with non-custodial parents, dinner, sleep, play, tv, computer.)

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
3:00-4:00 pm				
4:00-5:00 pm				
5:00-6:00 pm				
6:00-7:00 pm				
7:00-8:00 pm				
8:00-9:00 pm				
9:00-10:00 pm				
10:00-11:00 pm				