

Homework Contract Nebula Team

Homework Philosophy:

Much research has been done about homework. Many say that homework is helpful; others argue that homework can be harmful. Homework, when used correctly, can positively improve understanding and performance. More accurately, homework should be called “practice” because it gives students an opportunity to practice content that has already been covered.

There are several important guidelines to take into consideration when looking at homework. Teachers, students, and parents all have roles when it comes to homework. If we all follow through on our responsibilities, then homework will be seen as beneficial.

The Teacher Will:

- Only assign homework when necessary. No busy work!
- Only assign homework that covers information already discussed in class.
- Grade all homework in a timely manner.
- Assign reading as a way to create better discussions in class.
- Assign homework that can be completed independently.
- Consider student ability when assigning homework.
- Involve parents (when appropriate) to participate in completing assignments.
- Provide rubrics for assignments as often as possible.
- Post all homework online (with attachments as necessary).
- Work with other team teachers to coordinate homework expectations.
- Discuss any changes to this policy with students and parents should they arise.

The Student Will:

- See all assignments as required tasks: not optional.
- Recognize homework as a way to develop good study habits.
- Understand an assignment’s instructions and purpose before leaving class.
- Understand that Nebula Teachers only assign homework when necessary.
- Expect to receive graded homework back quickly.
- Understand that reading must be done at home in order to move through content quickly.
- Ask questions about work or grades.
- Check homework online and use a planner to stay caught-up.
- Communicate to Nebula Teachers any events taking place outside of school that may keep them from completing homework.
- Expect 60 to 80 minutes of homework each night from the Nebula Team.

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The Parent Will:

- Let Nebula Teachers know immediately if homework assignments become too difficult or time-consuming.
- Only *assist* students with homework as necessary. If students have difficulties, or are unable to complete homework, the parent will contact Nebula Teachers.
- Take an active role in understanding the content students are learning.
- Ask questions to help their child understand content.
- Take time to sit down and communicate with their child regarding what is happening at school.
- Help students understand the usefulness of homework and provide an environment that is suitable for careful work to be done.
- Check grades and homework online often to be sure the student is doing the homework.

Grading Policy:

The Nebula Team teachers believe that homework is meant to prepare students to demonstrate their understanding of the material and concepts presented in class. Thus, only 20 percent of your grade is based on homework, lab book, notes, and practice. Summative assessments such as tests, quizzes, projects, and essays demonstrate your overall understanding of a concept. 80 percent of your grade is based on these types of assessments. If you are unhappy with a grade you earn on a summative assessment, you may retake it or revise it (depending on teacher expectations) after completing a Plan For Improvement sheet. The Plan for Improvement must be signed and turned in within one day of receiving your original grade. The re-take date will be set by your teacher. Re-takes occur at lunch. You can receive full credit for any summative assessment retaken!!!

Homework **MUST BE** done. If an assignment is not completed the day it is due, it is required to be turned in completed the next day **signed by a parent**. If it is not turned in signed, you will contact your parents. Once 5 assignments for the team have not been completed on time, a team conference with parents and student will be scheduled. Remember that every assignment not completed on time can be turned in late for full credit!!! *Students who abuse this privilege may lose it.*

Please sign the attached sheet and return to your 3rd hour Nebula Teacher

Homework Contract
Nebula Team

Student:

I have read the Nebula Team Contract and I agree to complete all homework in ALL classes.

Student Signature: _____

Student Name: _____

Date: _____

Parent:

I have read this contract and understand my role in assisting my child with their work. I will contact Nebula Teachers with questions or concerns as they arise.

Parent Signature: _____

Parent Name: _____

Date: _____

Please return this page to your 3rd hour teacher by Wednesday, August 25th