COLUMBUS CITY SCHOOLS

Guidelines for Homework in Gifted & Talented Programming

Research has indicated the potential benefits of meaningful homework in developing a student's academic knowledge and skills, including increased content understanding, time management, and study habits. Research also points to the need for students who are gifted to have time to explore their wide range of interests and to set aside time for personal well-being. To that end, the following guidelines have been developed to guide teachers in assigning homework to students who are receiving self-contained gifted services.

- 1. All homework assignments shall be in line with Board Policy 2330 and Administrative Guidelines 2330.
- 2. Homework should be appropriate to the student's readiness and ability and may be differentiated as required based on student need.
- 3. Homework should be meaningful practice, extension of skills and knowledge, or preparation for upcoming lessons. All required work should be connected to classroom instruction.
- 4. The length of homework assignments should not exceed an average of 10 minutes per night per grade level. (ie. a 1st grader would receive 10 minutes per night, a 6th grader up to 60 minutes per night, and a 9th grader up to 90 minutes per night.)
 - a. Teachers may assign less homework than what is described above.
 - b. Length of time is based on what could be reasonably expected from a student of that age and ability.
 - c. The guideline above is cumulative across all subject areas. In cases of team teaching, teachers are encouraged to collaborative plan to ensure assignments do not occur in excess
 - d. Families are encouraged to spread long-term assignments over multiple days to balance the time spent on homework each evening.
 - e. Work taken home as a result of absence, ineffective student use of class time, or other interruptions to the day are not part of the homework time allotment.
 - f. The district recognizes parents/guardians may need to stop their child if the time spent on homework becomes excessive for that child. In such situations, parents are encouraged to communicate directly with the teacher(s) involved to discuss strategies for supporting the child.
- 5. Students may opt to expand on assigned homework or pursue optional tasks based on interest or other motivation. This work is not considered homework but personal enrichment.
- 6. Homework assignments should be given with consideration for the resources available at home for students, including, but not limited to, supplies, time, supervision, and technology.
- 7. Students shall not be penalized for incomplete assignments due to limited access to necessary resources.