**HANCOCK CENTRAL SCHOOL 4730**

**HOMEWORK**

Homework is recognized and encouraged as an extremely valuable activity and as an appropriate extension of classroom instruction. Homework provides essential practice in needed skills, trains students in good work habits, affords opportunities for increasing self-direction, enriches and extends school experience, helps children learn to budget time, brings students into contact with out-of-school learning resources and promotes growth in responsibility.

Teachers are cautioned to avoid overloading students with excessively lengthy homework assignments or with overly brief and empty assignments. Planning homework assignments should be given as much care as the planning of any other aspect of a lesson. An assignment important enough to be done must be considered worthy of teacher evaluation.

Homework shall be assigned according to these guidelines:

1. Homework should be a properly planned part of the curriculum extending and reinforcing the learning experience of the school.   
2. Homework should help children learn by providing practice in the mastery of skills, experience in data gathering and integration of knowledge, and an opportunity to remediate learning problems.   
3. Homework should help develop the student’s sense of responsibility by providing an opportunity for the exercise of independent work and judgment.   
4. The number, frequency, and degree of difficulty of homework assignments should be based on the abilities, activities, and needs of the student. However, the grade given for the homework is dependent on the student’s performance.   
5. As a valid educational tool, homework should be clearly assigned and its product carefully and promptly evaluated.   
6. Homework should be an extension, but not a duplication of the class and schoolwork. Assignments will be most productive when they are relevant to the current classroom activity. Homework should be challenging and provide opportunities for children to do individual thinking.

The Board of Education believes that parental involvement in students’ homework is essential to making homework an integral part of the educational program. Parents are expected to encourage and monitor homework assignments and, to the extent possible, provide conditions that are conducive to their successful completion.

ADOPTED: 9/27/93