



WOODBIDGE TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Superintendent of Schools

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Woodbridge Township Homework Revisions

Our teachers and administrators are constantly exploring different ways to improve instruction and increase engagement. Conversations between administrators began this summer regarding the recent studies on homework and the overall significance and effectiveness of homework. We agreed that as a district we needed to at least begin the discussion about the effectiveness of the work we send home to be completed by our children—especially at the elementary level. Many of our individual teachers and administrators are already changing their homework assignments to more non-traditional versions. Furthermore, several of our elementary principals decided they would like to pilot school-wide initiatives regarding their homework assignments. There are misconceptions (fueled by recent headlines), however, that our district seeks to remove homework from our schools. I can assure you that this is not the case. We are seeking more meaningful assignments to work on at home. These assignments can reinforce classroom work or introduce students to new topics. We are striving for better homework, not no homework. As a result, your child may be bringing home less traditional homework—less dittos and repetitive writing assignments. What you will see instead is more creative or computer based assignments, independent reading, and/or projects; ultimately, homework will get better. The limited amount of feedback we've received so far has been overwhelmingly positive and supportive. We plan on studying the results of these pilots and we will make decisions on possibly expanding the program. If you have any questions, please contact your child's principal.