

# Ahkwesāhsne Mohawk Board of Education



## **POLICY 500 HOMEWORK**

### **Please Note:**

AMBE policies are governance documents that state the Board's decision related to an area of operation by stating purpose, guiding principles, basic procedures, and key responsibilities.

AMBE senior management is accountable for implementing Board policies, and expected to exercise good judgment when implementing the policies in the context of day-to-day operations. Where appropriate, senior management may decide to develop specific guidelines and procedures, Administrative Frameworks, to ensure the appropriate implementation of Board policy.

This policy was adopted for the first time by the Ahkwesāhsne Mohawk Board of Education (AMBE) on:  
May 18, 2022

Subsequent amendments:  
\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_

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## 1. Purpose

The purpose of *Policy - Homework*, is to outline the role of homework as part of students' education in the *Ahkwesāhsne Mohawk Board of Education*.

## 2. Definitions

3.1	<b>The Board or AMBE</b>	Refers to the <i>Ahkwesāhsne Mohawk Board of Education</i> , which includes both the governance and administrative structure.
3.2	<b>Board of Trustees</b>	A duly called meeting of Trustees to conduct the official business of the <i>Ahkwesāhsne Mohawk Board of Education</i> .
3.5	<b>Director of Education</b>	The executive officer and lead manager of the <i>Ahkwesāhsne Mohawk Board of Education</i> who is directly accountable to the Board for the administration of the Board’s schools, centers, programs and services and the management of its human, financial and material resources. The <i>Director of Education</i> is an Ex-officio member of the Board.
3.4	<b>Formative Assessment</b>	Used to monitor student learning, provide ongoing feedback, and make needed adjustments and changes to curriculum materials and pedagogy to enhance student success.
3.5	<b>Homework</b>	Work that is assigned to students and is engaging, reinforcing, relevant and meets individual student’s needs; and which must be completed outside of regular class time.
3.6	<b>Homework Program</b>	A <i>Homework Program</i> is designed and implemented by the school to meet its students’ needs by providing additional support in completing homework.
3.7	<b>Summative assessment</b>	Used to evaluate students' learning and academic achievement at the conclusion of a defined instructional period.

## 3. Principles

### 3.1. General Principles

3.1.1. The Ahkwešāhsne Mohawk Board of Education believes that homework fosters student initiative, independence, responsibility, and enhances the connection between home and school. (Policy 608)

3.1.2. Homework should be engaging and relevant to teaching and learning that has already occurred in the classroom, and will be:

- Excluded from students’ summative assessment. (Policy 608)
- Non-punitive in nature.

3.1.3. Homework will take into consideration individual student’s needs.

3.1.4. Homework should be assigned with consideration for our students’ reality and the importance of family time during scheduled holidays, breaks, and weekends.

## 4. Procedures

### 4.1. General Procedures

4.1.1. *Homework Guidelines* (Annex A) will be:

- Reviewed annually to ensure that students, parents, and teachers are aware of the AMBE guidelines for homework.

- Included in each school's Student Handbook and Teacher Handbook. (Policy 608)

4.1.2. Each school will develop and implement a *Homework Program* suited to the needs of their students and community.

## 4.2. Planning and Assigning Homework

4.2.1. When homework is being planned or assigned, it will be:

- Engaging and relevant to teaching and learning that has already occurred in the classroom.
- Only used for formative assessment (*excluded from student summative assessment*), therefore, used to make needed adjustments and changes to curriculum materials and pedagogy to enhance student success.
- Adjusted and/or modified to meet student's individual needs, taking into account:
  - The student's age, grade level, and ability;
  - Assignments given by other teachers; and
  - Factors that may affect the students' ability to complete assignments. (Policy 608)
- Effective homework assignments should:
  - Meet individual student's needs, which may require homework to be modified;
  - Take into consideration the resources or technology available to students;
  - Be reviewed to provide feedback to encourage continuous learning;
  - May include opportunities for parents/guardians to be engaged in their children's learning;
  - Be considerate of opportunities for parents/guardians to engage in their children's learning when appropriate; and
  - Reviewed to provide feedback to encourage continuous learning.

4.2.2. Parents/guardians are encouraged to contact their child's teacher if they have concerns with homework assignments and expectations.

## 5. Roles and Responsibilities

### 5.1. The Board of Trustees will:

- Ensure the application and revision of this policy.

### 5.2. The Director of Education will:

- Ensure the proper implementation of this policy; and
- Facilitate the development and implementation of *Homework Programs* that meet the needs of each school's students and community.

### 5.3. The Principal will:

- Review this policy with teachers at the start of each school year and periodically ensure the proper implementation of the policy;
- Ensure that a copy of school *Homework Guidelines* is contained in the school handbook. (Policy 608)
- Plan and facilitate the implementation of a *Homework Program* at a convenient time and location to aid students who seek additional help and support in completing their homework; and
- Support teachers and parents in addressing any concerns or issues in relation to homework.

#### **5.4. The Teacher will:**

- Assign homework that is a positive reinforcement (*non-punitive or result in punitive measures*) of classroom teaching and learning that factor in I.E.P requirements;
- Assign homework that is engaging and relevant, taking into account article 4.2.3 and 4.2.4 above, creating opportunities whenever possible for homework to be completed during class time.
- Be aware of the time required to complete homework tasks, giving consideration to the reality of their students and the importance of family time during scheduled holidays, breaks, and weekends;
- Communicate school *Homework Guidelines* (Annex A) and the school's *Homework Program* at the beginning of the school year, providing reminders to students and parents throughout the year as is appropriate; and
- Work positively with students and/or parents/guardians who have concerns with homework expectations.

#### **5.5. Students should:**

- Follow the guidelines as indicated in Annex A, completing homework assigned to them in the given time frame and respecting the provisions of homework as outlined in this policy;
- Seek help and attend the *Homework Program* when necessary or required;
- Manage time and materials needed to successfully complete their homework assignments (e.g. by bringing home necessary materials); and
- Contact their teacher if they have any concerns or issues regarding homework assignments and expectations.

#### **5.6. Parents/Guardians should:**

- Be engaged in their child's learning and development;
- Be aware of and understand the *Homework Guidelines*, as outlined in Annex A;
- Understand and reinforce the expectations outlined in the current policy and *Homework Guidelines*;
- Establish a routine and appropriate area for the completion of homework; and
- Contact their child's teacher if they have any concerns or issues regarding homework assignments and expectations.

## **6. Policy Review and Revision**

### **6.1. Principles and Directives:**

6.1.1. It is important for the policies of the Akwesasne Mohawk Board of Education to remain current and serve the best interest of Akwesasne students and the Akwesasne community.

6.1.2. The Board of Trustees recognizes that this policy should be reviewed at a minimum of every 5 years and/or when the legal or regulatory requirements of the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne change or the Board must meet new government obligations.

### **6.2. Procedures:**

6.2.1. The Board of Trustees will establish a timeline for the regular review of this policy that requires the policy be reviewed at the minimum 5 years from the date of approval by the Board or as required by new circumstances or obligations.

### **6.3. Roles and Responsibilities:**

#### 6.3.1. Board of Trustees will:

- Establish a timeline for the regular review of this policy and ensure that it is respected; and
- Ensure that this policy is reviewed at a minimum every 5 years from the date of approval, or when the legal or regulatory requirements of the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne change or the Board must meet new government obligations.

#### 6.3.2. The Director of Education will:

- Initiate a review of this policy at a minimum every 5 years from the date of approval, or when the legal or regulatory requirements of the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne change or the Board must meet new government obligations.

# 1. Annex A: Homework Guidelines

## AHKWESĀHSNE MOHAWK BOARD OF EDUCATION



### Homework Guidelines

#### General Principles

The Ahkwesāhsne Mohawk Board of Education believes that homework should:

- Foster student initiative, independence, responsibility, and enhance the connection between home and school; (Policy 608)
- Be engaging and relevant to teaching and learning that has already occurred in the classroom;
- Be excluded from students' summative assessment; (Policy 608)
- Be non-punitive in nature;
- Take into consideration individual student's needs including their I.E.P.; and
- Be assigned with consideration for our students' reality and the importance of family time during scheduled holidays, breaks, and weekends.

#### The Teacher will:

- Assign homework that is a positive reinforcement of classroom teaching and learning, and that is engaging and relevant;
- Be aware of the time required to complete homework tasks, giving consideration to the reality of their students and the importance of family time during scheduled holidays, breaks, and weekends; and
- Work positively with students and parents/guardians who have concerns with homework expectations.

#### The Student should:

- Complete the homework assigned to them in the given time frame;
- Seek help and attend the *Homework Program* when necessary or required; and
- Manage time and materials needed to successfully complete their homework assignments (e.g. by bringing home necessary materials).

#### Parents/guardians should:

- Be engaged in their child's learning and development;
- Understand and reinforce the expectations outlined in the *Homework Guidelines*; and
- Establish a routine and appropriate area for their children to do their homework.