The Governing Board recognizes current research showing that the benefits of homework are age dependent, only correlating with academic benefit in high school. The Board further recognizes that for elementary-aged students, research suggests that, in contrast to homework, reading at home has significant benefits, including promoting a love of school and an interest in learning. The Board recognizes the importance of after-school time for developing positive attitudes toward school, participating in extracurricular activities, and fostering healthy personal and family relationships. With this in mind, the Superintendent or designee shall collaborate with school administrators and teachers to develop and regularly review guidelines for the assignment of homework and the related responsibilities of students, staff, and parents/guardians.

Homework assignments shall be meaningful, reasonable in length and appropriate to the grade level and course. Teachers shall assign homework only as necessary to fulfill academic goals and reinforce current instruction.

(cf. 6011 – Academic Standards)

Although on-time completion of homework is important to maintain academic progress, the Board recognizes that students learn at different rates. Students shall receive credit for work that is completed late in order to encourage their continued learning.

Age-appropriate instruction may be given to help students allocate their time wisely, meet their deadlines, and develop good personal study habits.

Teachers shall communicate homework expectations to students and their parents/guardians. Homework guidelines also shall be included in student and/or parent handbooks. These communications shall include the manner in which homework relates to achievement of academic standards and course content, the impact of homework assignments on students’ grades, any school resources and programs that are available to provide homework support, and ways in which parents/guardians may appropriately assist their children.

Although it is the student’s responsibility to undertake assignments independently, parents/guardians may serve as a resource and are encouraged to ensure that their child’s homework assignments are completed.

(cf. 5020 – Parent Rights and Responsibilities)
(cf. 6020 – Parent Involvement)

Teachers shall review completed homework to assess the student’s understanding of academic content and shall provide timely feedback to the student.
Make-up Work
Students shall be given the opportunity to make up school work missed because of an excused absence or suspension and shall receive full credit if the work is turned in according to a reasonable make-up schedule.

Students who miss schoolwork because of unexcused absences may be given the opportunity to make up missed work.

Students will be allowed full make up privileges without penalty for any work missed during observance of major religious holidays.

(cf. 5113 – Absences and Excuses)

The Superintendent or designee shall notify parents/guardians that no student may have his/her grade reduced or lose academic credit for any excused absence when missed assignments and tests are satisfactorily completed within a reasonable period of time. Such notification shall include the full text of Education Code 48205. (Education Code 48980)

(cf. 5121 – Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement)
(cf. 5145.6 – Parental Notifications)

The teacher of any class from which a student is suspended may require the student to complete any assignments and tests missed during the suspension. (Education Code 48913)

(cf. 5144.1 – Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)

Legal Reference:
EDUCATION CODE
8420-8428 21st Century High School After School Safety and Enrichment for Teens
8482-8484.65 After School Education and Safety Program
8484.7-8484.9 21st Century Community Learning Centers
48205 Absences for personal reasons
48913 Completion of work missed by suspended student
48980 Parental notifications
UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20
7171-7176 21st Century Community Learning Centers

Management Resources:
CSBA PUBLICATIONS
Research-Supported Strategies to Improve the Accuracy and Fairness of Grades, Governance Brief, July 2016
WEB SITES
CSBA: http://www.csba.org
California State PTA: http://www.capta.org

Policy
POWAY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
adopted: April 19, 2018
San Diego, California