District Adopts Regulations On Homework

Homework serves valid purposes when it:

a. provides essential practice in needed skills
b. trains pupils in good work habits
c. affords opportunities for increasing self direction
d. enriches and extends school experience
e. helps children learn to budget time
f. brings pupils into contact with out-of-school learning resources
g. promotes growth in responsibility
h. reinforces understanding
i. provides "tailored" assignments for individual students
j. helps children discover that learning can take place outside the classroom

When homework is assigned to serve the above purposes, these guidelines will be followed:

1. In Kindergarten through Second Grade, assignments may be made two or three times a week, and will require 15 to 30 minutes. The assignments might include such activities as clipping pictures from magazines, bringing things to school for sharing, watching a certain television show, and observing plants, weather, and the like.

2. In Third through Fifth Grade, students will be introduced to assignments that take several days to complete. Assignments may involve written work, including spelling, using dictionary skills, practicing penmanship and writing sentences with given words. Assignments may take 30 minutes a day, two to four times a week. Although long-term assignments may be more common by Fifth Grade, in most instances assignments given on Friday should not be due on Monday.

3. At the Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth Grade level, assignments should not be given more than four times a week, and should represent reasonableness in the requirement of time at home. Assignments should probably take from 30 - 40 minutes to complete, except for long-term assignments. Teachers should coordinate assignments so that students are not overburdened on any one night.

4. At the Senior High level, students should expect that homework will usually require a significant demand on their time four nights a week. Long-term assignments, such as reports and term papers, will become more common-place and students will often be required to organize their own time.

Parents are encouraged to contact the school if they have any questions about the type or duration of homework assignments. Pupils vary widely with regard to work habits. If a pupil appears to spend significantly more or less time on assignments than indicated in the regulations, parents should contact the school immediately.

Parents can assist their children by:
1. Providing suitable study conditions (desk or table, light, books, supplies, dictionary);
2. Reserving time for homework;
3. Silencing the telephone;
4. Turning off the television;
5. Discouraging visitors during the time reserved for homework;
6. Encouraging their children;
7. Avoiding undue pressure on children;
8. Notifying teachers if their children are becoming frustrated with assignments.

BUS TRANSPORTATION

Transportation will be provided for all resident pupils attending private and parochial schools outside the District to a distance not to exceed fifteen miles from the pupil's place of residence to the school. The parent or guardian of each child to be so transported shall file a written request for such transportation at a subsequent date, must make a written application prior to April first, but who establish residence but not later than August first. The District will not be required to honor any requests received after the above stated deadline. Late applications will be approved only when such transportation can be provided at no additional cost to the District.

Parochial schools designated for attendance by District residents are St. John's, St. Isidore's and Mercy High School.
HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS

Co-Ed Bowling
The high school competed in its first year of bowling competition and finished with a record of 10 wins and 26 losses. Three games comprised a match which included teams from Westhampton, Mattituck, Riverhead, Easthampton, Port Jefferson and Southold.

Coach Herb Crispell did an excellent job coaching the young Wildcat team, which will lose only one bowler, Duane Murphy, due to graduation. Other members of the team included; Neil Armstrong, Bob Armstrong, Janice Elliott, Doug Farrington, Paul Godzielia, Steve Hess, Rich Knutson, Chris Maggio and Karen Pfeiffer. Steve Hess finished with high average of 164 in 21 games.

Varsity and J.V. Wrestling
In its first year of varsity competition, the wrestling team finished with a record of four wins and seven losses in the league. Coaches J. Ferraira and R. McCan made tremendous progress with the boys and developed a dedicated and hard working team. Andy McNerney was undefeated in league matches.

—UPCOMING ATHLETIC DATES IN HIGH SCHOOL—
FEBRUARY 28 — Girls' Gymnastic Practice
MARCH 17 — J. V. and Varsity Baseball Practice (Boys)
Varsity Tennis (Boys)
Varsity Track (Co-Ed)

High School Mathletes

On November 29, our senior high mathletes "A" team, coached by Robert Dumas, placed first in its league and tied for first in the county during a meet at Miller Place High School.

The "A" team was started off by Elizabeth Canal and Arthur Flatau, who scored 5 points each. Our "B" team also did well, with Michael Dubroff scoring a high of 5 points.

On the January 3 meet, which was held at Port Jefferson, the "A" team placed fourth in the county. Art Flatau, Betty Canal and Ralph Flatau each scored five points. Art Flatau is currently tied for fourth place in the county out of 370 participants.

The scoring in mathletes is simple. Each mathlete is given six questions, for which they are given five points. The same question simultaneously. The questions are timed and everyone is given the same question simultaneously. The team members' scores are added together to find the team score.

Participating in the mathletes are: Arthur Flatau, Elizabeth Canal, Kris Meyers, Ralph Flatau, Michael Dubroff, Richard Claus, Douglas Farrington, Irene Flatau, Diane Biederman, Eugene Canal, Elly Claus, Ron Fiske, and Pat Savona.

MATH FAIR—

Michael Dubroff, a Shoreham-Wading River High School student, prepared a lecture which was presented at the Long Island Math Fair on February 9th. This annual event brings together hundreds of students from Suffolk and Nassau Counties who have found math interesting and exciting enough to explore on their own. Also, participants prepare a math oriented paper and present it at the annual fair.

Competition is offered at the junior and senior high school levels, with separate sections for junior and senior high computer topics.

Michael Dubroff, competing at the 11th grade level, chose a branch of mathematics called transfinite set theory for his project.
Wading River News

During the cold winter spell when outdoor recess was an impossibility, the music room at Wading River was the place to be. Amy Lester and Kelly Mitchener, two fifth grade students, began improvising dances, and soon as many as fifty students were contributing to a mixed media happening. More dancers joined in. Special lighting effects were added. Overhead and opaque projectors were educational, and warm.

Todd Kelley and Jo-Ann Mastronardi have begun working with a fourth and fifth grade chorale group on Jonah Man and Jazz. The musical, adapted by Mr. Kelley, will be presented to help celebrate Music In Our Schools Day in early spring.

Who's SAM? SAM is a member of the 4th and 5th grade music program at Wading River. And SAM is into everything: voice, theater, keyboard, guitar, recorder, composition, mixed media, conducting, homemade band, electronics, movement, disc jockey. SAM is Special Activities in Music and each student studies two a year for ten weeks each. Thanks to SAM, students are able to study topics in small groups and determine whether it is a subject they might like to pursue on their own or in later years.

Colonial Crafts In The Media Center at Wading River

One of the Wading River Media Center activities this month was working with student apprentices from Mrs. Barber's class who were learning ropemaking and dollmaking in a colonial crafts project. Students carved heads from apples as doll makers, and used an authentic colonial ropemaking machine on loan from the Museum at Stony Brook to produce fine sisal rope.

Mrs. Goldstone, Mr. Carpenter, Mr. Kronin and Mrs. Barber worked with the apprentices as master craftsmen in the colonial crafts of dollmaking, ropemaking, pottery, printing, samplers and weaving.

Ropemaking W. R. Library Media Center

Books And More Books!

Briarcliff Library Media Center is a very busy place these days. Book circulation is booming! On an average January day 70 books were borrowed. That is 350 books a week -- quite a reading rate! Projects in media production are going full tilt too. Third graders are creating fairy tale film strips after listening to "Let's Pretend" tapes (remember that radio program Moms and Dads?). Mrs. LaZ's 1-2 class is busyly making an illustrated biography of George Washington while Mrs. Sims' 1-2 people are doing the same for Abraham Lincoln.

The books will be off the press this week and each author will have her/his own copy. Miss Tuthill's class is involved in a dictionary project, as is Mrs. Reynolds' first graders. Second graders are practicing locational skills for the Briarcliff collection of Everybody books and using the microfiche reader. Tickets for the Noonday Film Club have been distributed: our first attraction Madeline by Bemelmans was a hit, and this week's feature, the salty tale of John Tabor's Ride, promises equal enjoyment.

People

Tony Messina, Music Teacher in the Middle School, was selected to sit on a panel dealing with electronic music lab management at the Music Educators National Convention in Washington, D.C., on February 21. Mr. Messina was asked to speak on the innovative and unusual experiences that he employs in his teaching.

ART EXHIBITION

The students in Vardi Mortellaro's art classes exhibited their work at Adelphi University from February 13-15. The exhibit, which displayed etchings, enamellings and stained glass, was a tremendous success.

Breakfast With Mr. Levine

The Briarcliff School Parent Liaison Committee has been hosting a series of coffee klatches in order to allow parents to meet Mr. Levine, principal of the Briarcliff School. Items of discussion at these meetings include curriculum, discipline, alternative classroom teaching styles, and any other items of interest.

In order to provide working parents the same opportunity, Mr. Levine held a morning breakfast before the start of the school day, on March 1st. Parents and principal participated in a congenial discussion over breakfast. Working parents were then able to get to their place of employment on time. Future breakfast meetings are planned.

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American Field Service

An AFS chapter has been established this year in our high school to promote an international exchange of students. We are currently hosting our first foreign student, a youngster from Uruguay. To meet other foreign students, the members of the AFS chapter hope to have an international weekend this spring. Much interest has been generated among the students, and we expect to host another student next year.

In addition, AFS sponsors a domestic exchange program, which has aroused the interest of several students who would like to spend a semester in another part of the country. However, in order to do so, our community must host a student from elsewhere in the U.S. So, to send students from here next fall or the spring thereafter, we need families willing to host other students.

NOTICES

School will be closed on May 30th this year, instead of May 31st.

TO ALL MIDDLE SCHOOL PARENTS

Please save the date March 23, 1977. It will be the first organizational meeting for the future Middle School Parent-Teacher Organization. More information will be available soon.

CONCERT

The Wading River Historical Society is sponsoring (for the East End Arts Council) a concert to be held in the High School at 8:30 p.m. on March 12th, featuring violinist Ruggiero Ricci.

Tickets are $5.00 for adults and the school has arranged special seating for school children. For an extra $1.00 each the audience can visit with the performer before concert time. For ticket information please call Jane Danby at 929-4350.

Hosting a student is an enriching experience for the entire family and many friendships are formed as a result. Furthermore, it adds another dimension to our high school program. So please consider being a host for a semester. If you are interested in hosting a student, please contact Ms. Bove at the high school, or Adelaide Flatau (744-9436).

Eighth Graders BILL CANAL and MARGIE LIPARELLI visiting MR. THOMAS PRACH, a chemist at Brookhaven National Laboratory as part of the work-study program at the Middle School.

Shoreham - Wading River Central School District
Towns of Riverhead & Brookhaven, N.Y.