

# Distance Learning Update: Asynchronous/Homework Practices During COVID-19

Sara Stone, Chief Academic Officer January 12, 2021

## Goals

- Review concerns and data
- Review Academic Committee Proposal
- Seek Board approval to pause the Homework Policy Pilot and Homework Minutes for Secondary grade levels

## **Questions and Concerns Received**

- Asynchronous Learning and Homework seem to be the same thing. Why do we have both?
- Adding Homework to the Asynchronous Minutes increases the amount of time I am on the computer.
- Do teachers know the total maximum minutes students should spend on Homework?

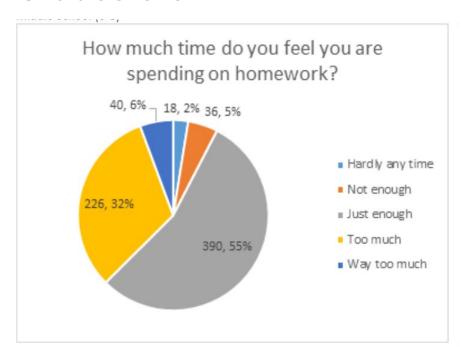
# 9-12th Grade Asynchronous + Homework Minutes\*

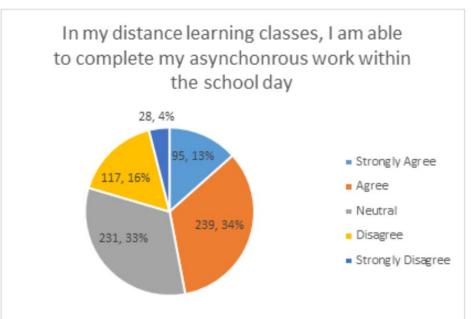
Class	Asynchronous Minutes per Class	Homework Minutes per Class	Total Minutes
Core class	50	30	80
Core class	50	30	80
Other subjects	50	20	70
Total minutes a day	150	80	230 minutes of asynchronous + homework

<sup>\*3</sup>x3 Schedule

#### Middle School Data

#### Grades 6-8

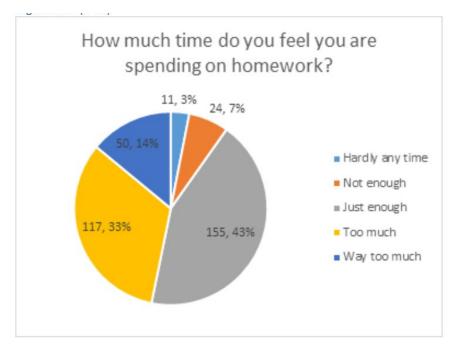


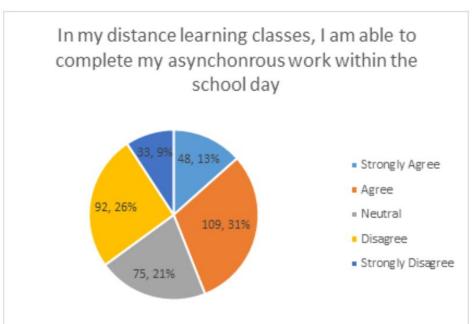




# **High School Data**

#### Grades 9-12







# 2020-21 Goals and Priorities

Student level goals (across content, aligned to Graduate Profile)	<ul> <li>Participate in experiential learning such as investigations, inquiry, modeling thinking, and taking</li> </ul>	Read, think, talk, and write about complex texts every day	Establish and maintain     healthy and rewarding     relationships with diverse     individuals and groups	
Teacher priority practices (across content)	Teachers use protocols and phrases to interrupt conversations and actions that perpetuate inequity			
	<ul> <li>Teachers use grade-level priority standards, texts, and tasks for all Tier 1 instruction</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Teachers design frequent student talk opportunities that support meaning-making, critical thinking, writing, and academic language practice in service of grade-level standards</li> </ul>	Teachers build positive relationships with and among our students to create the conditions for learning	

# **Proposal**

#### **Next Steps**

- Eliminate the Homework Minutes for 2020-21 Semester 2
- Follow Asynchronous Minutes time limits for all work that is outside of Synchronous Learning (see chart below) for 2020-21 Semester 2
- Communicate with students and families on the process
- Spring professional learning on Homework Implementation on the Homework Policy for Fall 2021

## Proposal, cont...

#### **Agreements**

- Asynchronous assignments can be a combination of new learning and practice of learning done in Synchronous time.
- Optional assignments can/should be offered to students who would like more time/practice above and beyond the Asynchronous Minutes.
- Teachers will not assign mandatory work that will take longer to complete than the Asynchronous minutes.
- Students who have spent the maximum amount of time listed below on Asynchronous learning are allowed to stop working without penalty and then should reach out to their teacher for extra support or help. If a student has not reached out, the teacher should check in with the student if they see a pattern of not completing the work.
- Teachers will strive to provide a balance between screen and non-screen based assignments and learning (or work), to reduce screen fatigue and technology issues.
- Accommodations for IEP learners that may include fewer problems or a reduced assignment to demonstrate learning
  must be considered as legally required by the student's IEP and distance learning plan (i.e. IAP). Any concerns
  regarding IEP student learning, including accommodations/modifications, should be directed to the case manager.
- We will encourage students to get involved in extracurricular activities and engage in school clubs and sports to encourage social, emotional, mental, and physical health.

# Proposal, cont...

Class	Asynchronous Minutes per Class
Class 1	50
Class 2	50
Class 3	50
Total minutes a day	150

# **Next Steps**

- Seek Board approval to pause the Homework Policy Pilot and Homework Minutes for Secondary grade levels
- Share updated Homework/Asynchronous Minutes with sites, students, and families
- Site leaders support staff in upholding the Homework Policy

### **Asynchronous/Homework Practices During COVID-19**

# Questions?

