<u>Travilah Elementary School</u>
<u>Homework Policy</u>

<u>Overview</u>
The Montgomery County Board of Education believes that parents can reinforce students' learning by knowing and supporting homework procedures established by the school. Research has shown that the amount of time devoted to learning is directly related to achievement. Homework plays an important part in a student's education.

Cooperation and communication among teachers, students, and parents helps to make homework an effective learning tool. Teaching teams will coordinate homework assignments paying attention to the workload with long term assignments.

<u>Purpose</u>
Homework assignments will relate directly to instructional objectives and account for individual differences among students. Homework will include opportunities for concept and skill development through review and enrichment experiences. Homework may include activities that help students to appreciate and express aesthetic values, explore community and natural resources, practice organizational skills, understand content, practice process and create products.

<u>Procedures</u>
The teacher will be responsible for determining the nature and length of homework while being cognizant of children's instructional needs, IEPs, and the learning situation. **Parents are encouraged to contact their child's teacher if homework seems to be taking an excessive amount of time after school.**

Instruction will always be given in class before homework is assigned.

Parents should be aware of student's progress with homework. If a student has difficulty with a specific homework assignment, it is important to inform the teacher. A note explaining the student's difficulty can be attached directly to the assignment. The teacher will use parent feedback to support students through additional instruction, reteaching and extra practice.

Homework will not be assigned on designated religious holidays.

Teachers of primary students will provide written directions for homework assignments.

Students in grades 3-5 will be responsible for writing homework directions in their assignment books. This should be facilitated and checked as needed by the teacher.

Feedback

Teachers will give feedback on homework to ensure that work done outside of school is an integral part of each child's learning.

Teachers may give feedback in writing or by talking with students by themselves or in a group.

Homework assigned for practice will not be included as a part of the academic grade. Homework assigned for practice will be reported in the Learning Skills part of the report card.

Teachers may grade homework that is assigned for students to show that they have learned certain skills or information. Students will be informed if homework assignments are for practice or for a grade.

Absences
When a student is absent for a day, the student will be responsible for getting the assignment from a fellow classmate. **If a student is absent for two or more days, requests for homework can be made to the school prior to 11:00 a.m.** on the second day of absence, and will be available for pick up after 3:25 p.m. that day. In the event that there is a long-term student absence due to a family trip, students are encouraged to maintain a log of their activities and/or take responsibility for reading and turn their work into the classroom teacher. Teachers **WILL NOT** assume responsibility for homework due nor send the daily assignments that would be missed because of family trips during the school year. The State of Maryland has compulsory attendance laws and we are not to condone unexcused absences that violate these laws by sending homework with children who are on vacation.

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Keep the Homework Policy as a reference. Tear this cover sheet off and return it to your child's teacher.

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I have read the Travilah Elementary School Homework policy and have discussed it with my child.

Child's name_____

Child's teacher_____

Parent/Guardian's Signature_____

Child's Signature_____