



To: Administrators

Date: 9/27/21

From: Stephan Brown

Regarding: Suspensions and Student Work

Several people have inquired about suspensions and homework. Specifically, if a student is suspended, are they allowed to receive and submit homework assigned during the days of suspension. While SCUSD is actively engaged in reducing the number of suspensions, when students are suspended, it is important that we limit the impact of the lost instructional time. Teachers have historically had the option whether or not to require suspended students to complete assignments during the term of their suspension. In October of 2019, the California legislature passed AB 982 which requires schools and teachers to support suspended students. The law went into effect on January 1, 2020. Shortly thereafter, the world changed.

California Assembly Bill 982

Beginning January 1, 2020, AB 982 requires a teacher to provide, upon request, homework to any student who has been suspended from school for two or more schooldays. This request must be made by either the suspended student, their parent, legal guardian, or other person holding the right to make educational decisions for the suspended student. If a request for homework is made, the assignments must be turned in upon the student's return to school from suspension or within the timeframe originally prescribed by the teacher, whichever is later.

The Legislature explicitly stated the purpose of AB 982 is to provide the suspended student with the homework that the student would otherwise have been assigned so the student does not unnecessarily fall behind academically.

The Legislature also explicitly stated it did not intend to require a teacher to correct classroom assignments or homework missed while the student is suspended, or to add an additional burden on a teacher's workload. With this in mind, AB 982 also provides that if a teacher is unable to grade the homework assignment before the end of the academic term, then the assignment shall not be included in the calculation of the student's overall grade in the class. The full text of the law can be found [here](#).

If you have questions regarding AB 982, please give me a call or stop by the office.