

7802: HONESTY AND INTEGRITY IN ACADEMIC WORK:

The Prohibition of Cheating

Cornerstones of personal development are honesty and integrity. It is expected that all district students will demonstrate honesty and integrity in their academic work. It is expected that parents, families, administration, faculty and staff will contribute to an environment where academic honesty and integrity are required, enforced and promoted. Work that is submitted in a dishonest fashion will not be accepted and dishonest behavior will be subject to disciplinary action as outlined in this policy. For the purpose of this policy, any academic dishonesty shall be considered cheating.

Furthermore, as an educational institution, our primary objective is learning. Consequently, this policy shall be implemented and interpreted so as to best develop in our students knowledge of and respect for academic honesty and integrity. To that end, consideration shall be given to the developmental level of students and their ability to understand the concepts and procedures required by the policy. Actions taken shall reflect the need to develop in students both an understanding of the policy and its importance in both school and life.

Violations of this policy that arise from a student's developmental or cognitive inability to understand and follow the conventions of academic integrity shall not be considered cheating. Such inability may result either from students' age/grade or individual capacity and the disciplinary sanctions of this policy are not intended for such cases. In such cases, the implementation of this policy shall provide for the education of students as to the proper way to use the information and knowledge of others in their work in a way that reflects the student's own capabilities and the expectations of the student's grade level.

Expectations

Of Students

- All work submitted as original must be original.
- Any work used from another source shall be attributed to that source.
- Work assigned to be completed without assistance (examinations, for example) shall be completed without assistance.
- Turn down requests from others to participate in cheating.
- There is to be no altering or falsifying of documents or records.
- Receive permission to use work submitted in one class again in another class.
- Promptly report any knowledge of cheating to a staff member.

Of Faculty and Staff:

- Uniformly enforce this policy.
- Report all instances of cheating to the administration.
- Model academic honesty in their own behavior.
- Educate students as to this policy and provide guidance as to acceptable and unacceptable behavior in assigned work.
- Encourage the expression of knowledge and independent work and the use of properly attributed material to support students' own efforts.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of students' efforts with respect to academic honesty and integrity.
- Assign consequences for cheating according to this policy.

Of Administration:

- Uniformly enforce this policy and support its enforcement by faculty and staff.
- Ensure that all students and their families are made aware of this policy.
- Ensure that faculty and staff implement this policy.
- Maintain a record of all cheating.
- Assign consequences for cheating according to this policy.

Of Parents and Families:

- Make sure their school children are aware of this policy.
- Promote academic honesty and integrity in their school children's work.
- Support the implementation of this policy.

Illustrative Examples of Cheating (not a complete listing)

- Using the ideas or work of another without acknowledgment.
- Copying work from another person and submitting it as your own.
- Receiving or giving unauthorized assistance.

- Altering or forging grades, records or documents.
- Providing false information.
- Using unauthorized information in the completion of tests or assignments.
- Failure to report knowledge of cheating.

Consequences of Cheating

- No work that involves cheating will be accepted for credit or for the fulfillment of a course requirement.
- The grade for all cheating will be recorded as zero (0).
- Cheating may be considered as grounds for exclusion from programs, awards and/or recognitions based on honors achievement.
- Cheating will be considered as stealing (the unauthorized taking of property).
- Failure to report knowledge of cheating may result in disciplinary action.
- Students guilty of repeated or egregious cheating should expect course failure and/or suspension as a result of their actions.

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