

1120	Honor Code Policy
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Audience:	Students, Employees, Board of Directors

Instances of cheating and lying not only break down community, but also subvert the purpose of an academic institution and distract students, Academic Partners and families from the tasks of teaching and learning. Therefore, it is vital to the academic community that all students and Academic Partners understand and abide by the Pine Lake Preparatory Honor Code.

Membership in a community carries responsibilities and rights and the Honor Code serves to protect the rights of all by requiring standards of academic integrity. As a citizen of the Pine Lake Preparatory community, I understand that engaging in academic dishonesty, no matter the degree or form, undermines my character and that of the school at large. I will uphold the standard of academic integrity through my attitudes and actions.

The Code addresses academic dishonesty in any form. Examples of Honor Code violations are, but are not limited to:

Cheating: Any practice, method, or assistance, whether explicitly forbidden or unmentioned, that involves any degree of dishonesty, fraud, or deceit. Some examples may include the copying of work or giving your work to another; the unauthorized use of study aids or collaboration during testing; obtaining or distributing copies of testing materials; and/or giving/receiving information regarding a test before, during, or after the test.

Plagiarism: Representing another's ideas or words as one's own, whether published or unpublished, as your own without proper citation of credit. Each student is responsible for working with Academic Partners to learn and observe appropriate documentation of another's work.

Lying (Falsifying data or fabricating academic documentation): Buying, selling, giving, or receiving papers, projects, essays, notebooks, or the like, from

any source, including the Internet. Forging or providing incorrect notes or letters of any kind or lying to an administrator or Academic Partner during investigations of academic dishonesty.

All members of the Pine Lake Preparatory student body and Academic Partners are bound by this Honor Code. While Academic Partners may choose to highlight subject-specific elements which relate to the Honor Code, all students in all courses are bound by the same set of expectations.

In order for this system to maintain its integrity and perform its intended purpose, members of the community must deal with violations as they arise. Members of the community are expected to report all violations in the manner outlined below and should do so in a timely fashion. Anyone who knowingly witnesses an Honor Code violation is honor bound to report the violation.

Honor Code

The Honor Code and Honor Pledge, its explanation, procedures, and sanctions for violations are outlined below. The student's signature of acceptance of the pledge, as well as the parents' acknowledgment of this, appears with the returned Signature Page from the Family Handbook. The Pledge is to appear on every test for the student to sign. Academic Partners may, if they choose, require students to sign the pledge on any other assignment as well.

The Honor Pledge

I pledge to support the Honor Code of Pine Lake Preparatory. I will refrain from any and all forms of academic dishonesty or deception, such as cheating or plagiarism. I will neither give nor receive unauthorized assistance on any academic exercise. I am aware that as a member of the Pine Lake Preparatory academic community, it is my responsibility to report all suspected violations of the Honor Code.

Explanation of the Honor Code

Students, parents, and Academic Partners at Pine Lake Preparatory create a community founded on trust and nurtured by honorable action. However, the internal condition of integrity does not spring forth fully formed as students cross the threshold of the school on the first day of class. Rather, students must be challenged to commit to integrity. Just like academic classes encourage the development of the intellectual capacities of students, a well-constructed honor system encourages the growth and

development of integrity in students. Students must be challenged to honorable action by the educational community of which they are a part.

A violation of the Honor Code is comprised of any actions, whether intentional or unintentional, which disregard honesty, and diminish the integrity of both the individual and the community. Moreover, such actions do not give the Academic Partner the opportunity to evaluate the student fairly or offer assistance when it is needed. They also deprive the student of a valid learning experience which is crucial to the education process.

While a member of the Pine Lake Preparatory community, each student is expected to conduct himself/herself with integrity and to uphold the Honor Code.