AR-5131.9 (a)

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Our learning community believes that the school should maintain a climate in which honesty, integrity, and respect for self and others are highly valued. Cheating is an obstacle to achieving these goals. In any of its forms, and for whatever reason, cheating undermines the value of education. We believe in the importance of learning and personal progress, and to impress upon students that one's best efforts are always required to achieve one's greatest potential.

The advancement and availability of artificial intelligence/generative technology (AI/GT), means the learning community is very likely to utilize this new technology. Such use must meet the requirements of academic honesty and yet allow for its application as a new tool for instruction, critical thinking, exploration, and development of original thought and material. It is expected and required that use of AI/GT will be appropriately referenced and noted.

Definition of Academic Dishonesty: Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, falsifying records, using unauthorized materials or tolls, and other forms of academic misconduct.

Responsibilities of Students: Students are responsible for maintaining academic honesty in all aspects of their academic work. They must complete their own work without assistance unless otherwise directed by the teacher. They must also credit all sources used in their work, including written and online sources, and must not submit work that has been previously submitted for another course, unless expressly allowed by the teacher.

Responsibilities of Staff: District administrative and teaching staff are responsible for educating students about academic honesty and for creating an environment that promotes academic integrity. They must clearly communicate expectations for assignments and assessments and take steps to detect and deter academic dishonesty.

Consequences for Academic Dishonesty: Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and may result in disciplinary action, including but not limited to a lower grade on an assignment, a failing grade for the course, suspension, or expulsion. Repeat offenders may face more severe consequences.

Reporting Academic Dishonesty: Students, teachers, and other members of the school community have a responsibility to report incidents of academic dishonesty. Reports should be made to the teacher, a school administrator, or the district superintendent.

Educational Opportunities: The District will provide educational opportunities to help students and staff understand the importance of academic honesty and develop the skills needed to avoid academic dishonesty. These opportunities may include workshops, seminars, and other educational resources.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

In summary, academic honesty is a fundamental value of education and is critical for maintaining the integrity of the learning process. The district expects all students and staff to maintain academic honesty in all aspects of their academic work and will take steps to detect and deter academic dishonesty. By following these guidelines, students and staff can contribute to a culture of academic integrity and ensure that the value of education is upheld.

Expanded Definitions

Deriving its root from the word honor, honesty is refraining from lying, cheating; being truthful, trustworthy or upright, sincere, straightforward and fair. The honest person is respected as one who is truthful and trustworthy. They are viewed as being of high moral character or integrity and honor.

Cheating is defined as obtaining or providing any help on an assignment or test where the intent was that the student completes the assignment or test by himself/herself. The teacher's professional judgment will determine whether cheating has occurred. Students shall not give the instructor cause to consider their actions dishonest.

The following should be considered a sample list of types of cheating that may occur. It is not intended to be all inclusive or comprehensive.

1. Looking at someone else's paper during a test or quiz.
2. Unauthorized talking with another student during a test or quiz.
3. Using any unauthorized "cheat notes."
4. Allowing someone to see of use one's own or another's paper during a test or on any individual assignment.
5. Copying work assigned to be done independently or allowing someone else to copy one's own or another's work. Because individual teachers hold different expectations regarding homework, it is up to the teacher to clarify their expectations to the students regarding individual assignments.
6. Copying sentences, phrases, or passages from an uncited source while writing a paper or doing research.
7. Giving or receiving any test information.
8. Submitting individual projects or assignments not wholly one's own, with or without the permission of the author. This may also include AI generated information and content downloaded from the internet without citing its source.
9. Fabrication or altering any information or lab data.

AR-5131.9 (b)

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Tenets of our Academic Honesty Policy

To be considered when evaluating potential student infractions of the Academic Honesty Policy we strive to:

- Regard each student as an individual, deserving individual attention, consideration, and respect.
- Consider the facts fully and carefully before resolving any case.
- Speak candidly and honestly to each student.
- Hold each student to a high standard of behavior, both to protect the integrity of our learning community, and to promote student moral development.
- Recognize the reality of human fallibility, as well as the stresses associated with life, and to demonstrate compassion, understanding, and a sense of humor.

Adoption Date: September 16, 2024