

Dear Parent or Guardian:

The Timberlane Regional High School community values and nurtures the academic, personal, creative, and social growth of all students. We uphold rigorous academic standards and promote continuous improvement through curriculum and experiences that foster excellence, cooperation, and responsibility. To help our students attain a high level of academic excellence, and to educate our students about the importance of academic integrity, many of the academic departments at our High School utilize the services of Turnitin.

Turnitin is a secure, web-based service that is, according to the Turnitin.com website, "most innovated and effective online technology for evaluating student learning". Turnitin services used may include Originality Check, GradeMark, and Peer Review. Originality Check helps to reduce plagiarism by checking a student's work for improper citation or potential plagiarism by comparing it against identifying similarities among Turnitin.com's database of existing sources, and/or other student work. In turn, Turnitin also protects the academic integrity of all students. GradeMark provides teachers online capabilities of timely in-depth comments to give overall feedback on student writing, align student writing to rubrics and organize writing into an online folder. Peer Review distributes work online for anonymous peer review which helps encourage and facilitate student evaluation of each other's work to learn from their classmates.

Turnitin.com's User Agreement requires parental permission for students between the ages of 14 to 17 to use their services. If not already done so, we are asking all High School parents and guardians to review this agreement regardless of whether their child currently has a Turnitin account, or is creating an account for the first time. Here is the direct link: <https://turnitin.com/agreement.asp>. In addition, we are asking all High School parents and guardians to review the information below and to indicate your consent for your child to use, or continue to use, the Turnitin service.

Under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), a school may not generally disclose personally identifiable information (PII) from a minor student's education records to a third party unless the student's parent has provided written consent. PII refers to any data or information about students collected by schools, districts, government agencies, or organizations and companies working with schools that might reveal the identity of specific students. Turnitin.com has provided a "Privacy Pledge" that explains their online information practices as it applies to PII. Here is the direct link: http://turnitin.com/en_us/about-us/privacy-center/privacy-pledge

By signing below, you agree that you have reviewed and understand the Turnitin.com User Agreement, and provide permission for your child to use the Turnitin service. Once signed, this agreement will apply to all subsequent years unless the agreement is withdrawn in writing by the parent/guardian. **Students must return this form to their English class teacher by Friday, March 20th.**

Student Name: _____

Grade: _____

Yes, I grant permission for my child to use the Turnitin Service, and that my child is required to adhere to the terms and conditions set forth in the Turnitin.com User Agreement.

Parent/Guardian Signature (Student Signature if 18 years or older)

Date