



Barack Obama Elementary

IB PYP School

Academic Honesty Policy

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to clarify the understanding and expectations of academic honesty within our learning community. It outlines the purpose, philosophy, principles, and practices that guide academic integrity at Barack Obama Elementary School. This 'living document' reflects District Responsible Use Policy 4526-E.1, The Dignity for All Students Act (Policy 0116), and District Code of Conduct (Policy 5300).

Alignment

School Mission: At Barack Obama Elementary School, we support all learners through inquiry-based learning experiences and community partnerships in a nurturing environment designed to develop global citizens who act responsibly toward their future and generations to come. Our motto: We try our best, to do our best, to be our best.

IB Mission: The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable, and caring young people who help create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

IB Standards and Practices Addressed

- Standard A: Philosophy – Promotes international-mindedness and IB learner profile attributes.
- Standard B1: Leadership and Structure – Develops policies and procedures supporting the IB program.
- Standard B2: Resources and Support – Library/media resources play a central role and ensure access to global issues.
- Standard C3: Teaching and Learning – Promotes understanding and practice of academic honesty and supports student responsibility.
- Standard C4: Assessment – Uses varied strategies and tools to assess learning.

Philosophy

Academic honesty is essential for fostering student agency and principled action. At Barack Obama Elementary, we believe that integrity in learning promotes fairness, respect, and

responsibility. Through inquiry-based and transdisciplinary learning, students engage in authentic experiences that develop the IB learner profile traits.

Principles

Academic integrity entails commitment to the fundamental values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect, responsibility, and courage (Fishman, 2014). These values guide ethical academic behavior and create a community dedicated to learning and the exchange of ideas.

Academic honesty means performing all academic work without:

- Plagiarism
- Lying
- Stealing
- Tampering
- Cheating

Definitions

- Academic Honesty: A set of values and skills promoting integrity and good practice in teaching, learning, and assessment.
- Academic Integrity (IB): Acting responsibly so others can trust us; the foundation for ethical decision-making.
- Academic Misconduct: Behavior that results in unfair advantage (deliberate or inadvertent).
- Plagiarism: Representing another's ideas or work without proper acknowledgment.
- Cheating: Attempting to gain dishonest advantage on assigned tasks.
- Authentic Authorship: Using proper citation for all sources.
- Digital Citizenship: Responsible use of technology and online platforms.
- Intellectual Property: Creative works protected by copyright, trademark, or patent.

Roles and Responsibilities

Students

- Submit original work and acknowledge sources.
- Use technology responsibly.
- Seek clarification when unsure about expectations.

Teachers

- Model academic honesty.
- Teach citation skills and responsible research practices.
- Provide clear guidelines for assignments.

Parents

- Support students in understanding academic honesty.
- Encourage ethical behavior at home.

Practices

- Explicit instruction on citation and research skills.
- Use of age-appropriate tools for referencing.
- Reflection activities on learner profile attributes.
- Integration of digital citizenship lessons.

Consequences for Academic Misconduct

Age-appropriate interventions focused on learning and reflection. Documentation of incidents. Communication with parents and support staff.

Review Cycle

This policy will be reviewed annually by the school leadership team, IB coordinator, and teaching staff to ensure alignment with IB standards and district policies.