



Hunt Middle School Academic Honesty

Tacoma Public Schools and IB schools aspire to develop the whole child. Reading, writing and math are very important, but we at Hunt also want our learners to demonstrate good character. We will guide our students to act honestly in their journey as a learner. To be academically honest, Hunt students need to show the following traits of the IB Learner Profile:

Hunt students need to be **Principled**: This means we act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness and justice, and with respect for the dignity and rights of people everywhere. We take responsibility for our actions and their consequences.

Hunt students need to be **Reflective**: We thoughtfully consider the world and our own ideas and experience. We work to understand our strengths and weaknesses in order to support our learning and personal development.

Hunt students need to be **Communicators**: We express ourselves confidently and creatively in more than one language and in many ways. We collaborate effectively, listening carefully to the perspectives of other individuals and groups.

Hunt students need to be **Risk-takers**: We approach uncertainty with forethought and determination; we work independently and cooperatively to explore new ideas and innovative strategies. We are resourceful and resilient in the face of challenges and change.

We must also point out that it is the responsibility of teachers and families to promote academic integrity. There are several important terms around academic honesty we need staff, students and families to know as part of that promotion.

Important Definitions:

Academic Honesty: demonstrating and upholding the highest integrity and honesty in all the academic work that you do: all your work is an accurate representation of what you know, understand and can do; you're clear about how you know what you know, your source

Academic Dishonesty: committing or contributing to dishonest acts, examples may include

- **Plagiarism:** Presenting someone else's ideas or work as your own
- **Collusion:** Occurs when a student uses fellow learners as an unattributed source
- **Duplication of work:** The presentation of the same work for different assessment components
- **Academic misconduct:** deliberate behavior that has the potential to result in the student, or anyone else, gaining an unfair advantage in one or more components of assessment. Behavior that may disadvantage another student is also regarded as academic misconduct.

Guiding Practice:

At Hunt, we expect our students and staff to give appropriate credit to those whose ideas we want to build on and to be willing to take the risk to share their own ideas. Within Tacoma Public Schools Policy 3240R, a student who represents "another's language, ideas or thoughts as a student's own work or using unfair means to gain an advantage in coursework or other school activities" are not demonstrating academic honesty.

In addition, IB Standard C3 Teaching and Learning says staff and students will "promote the understanding and practice of academic honesty."

The district policy and the IB standard together demonstrate that academic honesty is a clear expectation of all students.

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At Hunt, we use failures at academic honesty as teachable moments to guide a student towards being principled communicators and risktakers. It takes practice being courageous at sharing your own ideas. It takes practice learning the expectations around appropriate communication and giving others fair credit. It takes practice learning how to make principled choices while dealing with peer pressure or academic stress.

We recognize that learning how to be academically honest requires repeated and different types of opportunities to practice. We commit to holding high standards of academic honesty while framing those standards with a compassionate lens towards reflection, growth and improvement.

The school librarian will play an important role in supporting the education of academic honesty to all grade levels. This will include designing lessons around appropriate conduct around academic honesty.

Below are multiple examples of academic dishonesty. It is not a complete list of all forms of academic dishonesty, but it serves to give a clear picture of what academic dishonesty can look like in different classes and situations. In all these scenarios, Hunt staff would work with the student, or students, to learn the impact of their failure at demonstrating academic honesty, how to restore the harm caused by that failure, and how to avoid making the same failure in the future.

Examples/Scenarios:

Examples include but are not limited to: Sharing test questions or answers from an exam, homework or lab with another student. Doing any academic work for another student, such as homework or tests. Allowing another student to copy a solution to a homework problem, exam or lab. Using AI to complete work without teacher permission.

What is Academic Dishonesty

- Using and submitting purchased papers.
- Using unauthorized materials or sources of information, such as a cheat sheet, preprogrammed calculator, etc.
- Copying another student's academic work.
- Unauthorized communication during an examination.

Examples of conventions for citing and showing original ownership

At a minimum, identifies sources, to include the name of the author, date of publication, title of source, and page numbers, as applicable based on multiple subject areas (Art, music, literature, science, etc.)

Furthermore, guidance on the distinction between legitimate collaboration and unacceptable collusion will be discussed and demonstrated in the classroom setting.

The Rights / Responsibilities of Students:

The student is ultimately responsible for ensuring that their submitted work is authentic. The student has the right to explain point of view and correct any error in judgment.

Possible procedure on suspicion of malpractice:

1. Teacher will notify IB Coordinator, Head of School and student of suspicion of malpractice to engage in a fact seeking conversation.
2. Parents/family of student may be brought into the conversation.
3. Head of School will determine if malpractice has taken place based on investigation through appropriate supporting resources such as plagiarism software, student guides, and literature etc.

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4. Consequences will be assigned if warranted.

*Please return to Hunt's School Website for links to all Hunt IB policies

**Policy is reviewed yearly by all staff through SCDM