Academic Integrity Policy - Effective 9/1/2026
Also found in the Student / Parent Handbook, p. 15

Academic Integrity

At Red Bank Catholic High School, academic integrity is rooted in our Catholic mission and our commitment to educating the whole person. Honesty, personal responsibility, respect, and integrity are essential to the development of strong character and are expected in every aspect of school life.

Students are called to pursue knowledge honestly, to take responsibility for their own learning, and to respect the intellectual work of others. Academic work submitted by a student should accurately represent that student's own knowledge, effort, understanding, and abilities unless collaboration, outside resources, or other forms of assistance have been specifically authorized by the teacher.

Academic dishonesty undermines learning, damages trust, and is inconsistent with the values and expectations of the Red Bank Catholic community. Students are therefore responsible for understanding and following the expectations established by their teachers regarding collaboration, research, technology, Artificial Intelligence, assessments, and the use of outside resources.

This policy addresses a student's actions and academic conduct. A violation may occur regardless of whether the student intended to gain an unfair advantage. Students who are uncertain whether a particular resource, form of assistance, or use of technology is permitted have a responsibility to ask their teacher before submitting the work.

Forms of Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the following:

Cheating

Giving, receiving, using, or attempting to use unauthorized information, materials, notes, technology, study aids, electronic devices, or assistance in completing an academic assignment or assessment.

Unauthorized Collaboration

Providing or receiving assistance on an assignment, project, laboratory activity, assessment, or other academic task when collaboration has not been authorized by the teacher. Students who knowingly provide their work to another student for unauthorized use may also be held responsible.

Plagiarism

Presenting another person's words, ideas, analysis, organization, creative work, or other intellectual property as one's own without appropriate acknowledgment or citation. Plagiarism may include direct copying, improper paraphrasing, or incorporating material from print, digital, or other sources without appropriate attribution.

Fabrication or Falsification

Inventing, altering, or misrepresenting information, data, laboratory results, citations, sources, records, assignments, or other academic materials.

Unauthorized Use of Artificial Intelligence
Using Artificial Intelligence tools or AI-generated content in a manner not specifically permitted by the teacher. AI may be used only when authorized and within the parameters established for the particular assignment or course.

When AI use is permitted, students are responsible for following all teacher expectations regarding disclosure, citation, documentation, and the extent to which AI may assist with the work. Submitting AI-generated ideas, language, analysis, answers, images, code, or other content as one's own when such use has not been permitted constitutes academic dishonesty.

Unauthorized Access or Distribution of Academic Materials
Obtaining, possessing, sharing, photographing, transmitting, posting, or distributing tests, quizzes, examination questions, answer keys, assignments, or other restricted academic materials without authorization.

Violation of Assessment Procedures
Failure to follow testing or assessment procedures established by the teacher or school, including expectations regarding communication, electronic devices, notes, calculators, websites, applications, or other resources.

Examples of Academic Integrity Violations
The following examples are intended as guidelines and do not represent every possible form of academic dishonesty.

Level I Violations
Level I violations generally involve unauthorized assistance, improper use of resources, or limited instances of plagiarism or misrepresentation.

Examples may include:

- Using unauthorized websites, notes, study aids, applications, translation tools, Artificial Intelligence, or other reference materials.
- Copying another student's homework, classwork, laboratory work, computer file, project, or other assignment.
- Allowing another student to copy or use one's work when such assistance is not permitted.
- Fabricating a citation, source, laboratory procedure, result, or data.
- Using translation software or online translation tools to complete original World Language work without teacher authorization.
- Altering a returned assignment or assessment and presenting it for reconsideration of a grade.

- Plagiarizing a limited portion of an assignment when the majority of the work is the student's own.
- Violating testing procedures or teacher-established assessment protocols.
- Using unauthorized Artificial Intelligence assistance for a portion of an assignment.
- Misrepresenting participation, completion, or authorship of academic work.

Level II Violations
Level II violations generally involve more substantial, deliberate, repeated, or systematic acts of academic dishonesty.

Examples may include:

- Giving or receiving unauthorized assistance during a quiz, test, examination, or other assessment.
- Sharing assessment questions, answers, or content with another student before or during an assessment.
- Photographing, recording, copying, transmitting, or distributing an assessment without authorization.
- Obtaining an examination, quiz, answer key, or other restricted academic material prior to its authorized release.
- Using unauthorized notes, books, calculators, electronic devices, applications, stored information, or other materials during an assessment.
- Altering academic records, grades, or other official school documents.
- Attempting to access or modify another student's grades, records, accounts, or academic information.
- Plagiarizing substantial portions of an assignment.
- Submitting work that is primarily or entirely copied from another person or source.
- Submitting work completed substantially or entirely by another individual.
- Submitting substantially or entirely AI-generated work as one's own when such use was not authorized.
- Repeated Level I violations.

Academic and Disciplinary Consequences
Academic integrity violations are taken seriously at Red Bank Catholic. Consequences are intended not only to hold students accountable but also to reinforce the importance of honesty, responsibility, and restoring trust within the school community.

The teacher will ordinarily address the academic consequence in consultation with the appropriate administrator. School administration will determine disciplinary consequences when warranted.
Depending upon the nature, severity, circumstances, and frequency of the violation, consequences may include one or more of the following:

Possible Consequences for Level I Violations

- Teacher conference with the student.
- Parent/guardian notification.
- Requirement to redo or resubmit the assignment under conditions established by the teacher.
- Reduction of the grade on the assignment or assessment.
- A grade of zero for the assignment or assessment.
- Detention and/or Saturday Detention.
- Referral to the Dean of Students or school administration.
- Required academic intervention, teacher conference, or other educational consequence.
- Notification of the moderator or advisor of an Honor Society when applicable.
- Possible impact on membership or eligibility in an Honor Society in accordance with that organization's requirements.
- Possible impact on eligibility for school academic distinctions or honors when appropriate.

Repeated Level I violations may result in Level II consequences.

Possible Consequences for Level II Violations

- Parent/guardian conference.
- A grade of zero for the assignment or assessment with no opportunity for replacement credit.
- Saturday Detention.
- In-school disciplinary consequence.
- Suspension.
- Removal or loss of eligibility from an Honor Society, when consistent with the organization's bylaws and procedures.
- Restriction or loss of school privileges.
- Impact on eligibility for academic distinctions, honors, awards, or leadership opportunities.
- Additional disciplinary action as determined by the Administration.

Repeated or especially serious Level II violations may result in progressively more significant disciplinary consequences.

Cumulative Violations

Academic integrity is an expectation throughout a student's enrollment at Red Bank Catholic. Prior violations may therefore be considered when determining the response to subsequent incidents. Repeated violations demonstrate a pattern of conduct and may result in consequences beyond those ordinarily associated with an individual incident.

The Administration reserves the right to determine the appropriate level and consequence for any academic integrity violation based upon the circumstances of the incident. Particularly serious violations may warrant consequences beyond those normally associated with the designated level.

Responsibility of the RBC Community

Academic integrity is a shared responsibility. Students should never feel that dishonest behavior is necessary to achieve academic success. Students who are struggling academically, uncertain about an assignment, or feeling overwhelmed are encouraged to seek assistance from their teachers, counselors, administrators, or other appropriate members of the RBC community before making a choice that compromises their integrity.

Students are also expected not to facilitate academic dishonesty by providing answers, assignments, assessment information, or other unauthorized assistance to others.

At Red Bank Catholic, achievement has its greatest value when it reflects genuine learning, perseverance, and personal effort. Students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that reflects the Gospel values, personal integrity, and responsibility that are central to the mission of our school.