

Plagiarism Definition

Defining Plagiarism:

- Plagiarism can be intentional or unintentional, but is academically dishonest regardless.
- Some obvious forms of intentional plagiarism include submitting a current or former student's paper as your own, purchasing or finding a paper on-line and submitting it as our own, or cutting and pasting chunks of "research" from another source and inserting it into your paper without proper citation and quotation.
- Perhaps the offense most students seem to think is NOT plagiarism, but in fact constitutes plagiarism, is rephrasing an encyclopedia article without proper citations. Even if rephrased, the student is still passing off the ideas of another person as their own—this IS plagiarism.
- Students also commit plagiarism when they submit assignments that were not assigned as group or collaborative assignments, but were worked on with other students. Again, this can be intentional or unintentional, but still constitutes plagiarism. Unless specified by the teacher, assignments, including homework, papers, projects, and other assessments, are supposed to reflect the student's own ideas. If two students submit a similar assignment, such as a paper with similar structure, order of evidence, and/or the same choices of quotations, that are highly unlikely to have occurred by accident, they have committed plagiarism. If one student wrote the paper and the other copied it, both students are equally guilty of plagiarism. This is equally true of homework—if one student copies another student's homework, both are guilty of plagiarism.
- It is every student's responsibility to safeguard their work. It is every student's responsibility to make sure their own ideas, not ideas arrived at collaboratively on non-collaborative assignments, are submitted as their work. Students can have peers proofread and edit their work, but must submit their own ideas and only their own ideas.

Reporting Plagiarism:

- Teachers must report and document plagiarism. The standard punishment for plagiarism, which is always acceptable, is a zero on the plagiarized assignment, regardless of whether intentional or unintentional plagiarism was committed. Teachers may require students who have plagiarized to redo the assignment for no credit. If the teacher deems it appropriate in a specific situation, a student may be allowed to redo a plagiarized assignment for full or partial credit.

Consequences for Academic Dishonesty and/or Plagiarism

- The following consequences for academic dishonesty, and/or plagiarism, will be applied and implemented by all teachers.
- The teacher shall investigate and report any incident of academic dishonesty to the student's Associate Principal.
- If it is determined that the student engaged in academic dishonesty, the teacher shall assign the student no credit for the academic work or examination involved.
- The teacher is not required provide the student with an opportunity to re-submit the assignment or allow for a make-up of any kind.

Upon notification by teachers, school administrators may impose, but not be limited to imposing, the following consequences for a first offense:

1. Notifying parents of the code infraction.

2. In-school suspension not to exceed three days.

Additional or more serious violations of the Academic Integrity Code shall be dealt with more severely. Consequences for any offense beyond the first offense, or a more serious first offense will include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Meeting with the parent(s)
2. Out-of-school suspension not to exceed three days.
3. Notification of the student's college counselor and any faculty members writing a college/university letter of recommendation;
4. No public recognition of the student in any senior awards function;
5. Removal from the National Honor Society (if applicable);

Consequences for any offense beyond the first offense or a more serious nature may also include removal from the class without credit in which the additional offense occurred. College or universities to which the student has applied or been accepted to may also be informed of the offense.