

5701 PLAGIARISM/ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

The Board of Education is committed to require a high level of ethical standards for students in the school district that include honesty and integrity in all aspects of their academic program. The Board expects all students to embrace the highest standards of academic integrity in all assignments. Acts of academic dishonesty by students will not be accepted. Students are responsible for complying with the provisions of this Policy and may be subject to disciplinary action for any violation.

A. Students are expected to be honest in ~~all of their~~ studies and academic work. Students shall not engage in any of the following prohibited acts that include, but not be limited: This ~~means that they will not engage in any of the following~~ acts:

1. Plagiarizing term papers, themes, essays, reports, images, take-home examinations, and other academic work required of a student in their education program. Plagiarism is presenting work from another source without full acknowledgment that it is not their own work;
2. The deliberate use of false information or the falsification of research or other findings with the intent to deceive. Fabrication includes, but is not limited to, citing information not taken from the source indicated; listing sources in a bibliography that are not used in the project; fabricating data or source information in experiments, research projects, or other academic exercises; and take a test for another person or allowing others to take a test one's self.
3. Providing false information to a teaching staff member in an academic assignment such as giving a false excuse for missing a deadline or falsely claiming to have submitted an assignment;
4. Cheating on examinations by any means and obtaining copies of an examination;
5. Preventing other students from completing their assignments including, but not limited to, removing pages from books, willfully



disrupting the experiments or work of other students, misrepresenting the contributions of others in a group to give more credit to one particular student for one's personal gain; and compromising and/or damaging the school district's technology.

6. Using generative artificial intelligence (AI) in violation of Policy 2365 and the district's AI Plan;

7. Selling, for any fee, or other remuneration, prepare, offer to prepare, cause to be prepared, sell or offer for sale any term paper, thesis, dissertation, essay, report or other written recorded, pictorial, artistic or other assignment knowing, or under the circumstances having reason to know, that said assignment is intended for submission either in whole or substantial part under a student's name in fulfillment of the requirements for a diploma at any school or any educational institution in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:2-3.; or

8. Any other conduct determined by the Principal that compromises the academic integrity of a student's work.

Any violation of this Policy shall be addressed in accordance with Policy and Regulation 5600.

A student may appeal a violation of this Policy in accordance with Policy 5710.

Students shall be informed of the conduct prohibited by this Policy at the beginning of the school year.

N.J.S.A. 18A:2-3

A.

~~4. Cheating on examinations, including but not limited to, the nonauthorized use of books or notes, the use of crib sheets, copying from other students' papers, exchanging information with other students orally, in writing, or~~



~~by signals, obtaining copies of the examination illegally and other similar activities.~~

- ~~2. Plagiarism is not permitted in term papers, themes, essays, reports, images, take-home examinations, and any other academic work. Plagiarism is defined as stealing or use without acknowledgment of the ideas, words, formulas, textual materials, online services, computer programs, etc. of another person, or in any way presenting the work of another person as one's own.~~
- ~~3. Falsifications, including forging signatures, altering answers after they have been graded, the insertion of answers after the fact, the erasure of grader's markings, and other acts that allow for falsely taking credit.~~

~~B. — A student found guilty of academic dishonesty may be subjected to a full range of penalties including, but not limited to, reprimand and loss of credit for all of the work that is plagiarized.~~

~~C. — A teacher who believes that a student has been academically dishonest — in his/her class should resolve the matter in the following manner:~~

- ~~1. Reprimand the student orally and/or in writing. The teacher is also authorized to withhold credit in the work tainted by the academic dishonesty.~~
- ~~2. If warranted, the teacher shall file a written complaint against the student with the Principal, requesting a more stringent form of discipline. The complaint must describe in detail the academic dishonesty that is alleged to have taken place, and must request that the matter be reviewed by the Principal.~~
- ~~3. The Principal will determine if further discipline of the student is appropriate, and will determine the nature of the discipline on a case-by-case basis.~~



- ~~4. If the student is not in agreement with the disciplinary action of the Principal, they may appeal the action to the Superintendent. If the student is dissatisfied with the Superintendent's disposition of the case, they may grieve the action in accordance with Policy No. 5710, Student Grievance.~~

~~Artificial Intelligence: The Board of Education also realizes that new and emerging technology blur the lines between what is considered plagiarism. AI-based, Large Language Models (LLM) such as Google's LaMDA, and OpenAI's ChatGPT will continue to progress and be integrated with many computer programs that we use every day. These advancements bring productivity benefits as well as pedagogical challenges. Teachers in the South Orange/Maplewood school district are encouraged to continually adapt to and embrace the use of advanced technologies. AI has the potential to contribute to teaching and learning in meaningful ways, and in other instances be a deterrent when skill development requires that its use be restricted. With that in mind we offer the following options to educators. We have included suggested languages for inclusion in the teacher syllabi:-~~

- ~~a. Option 1 (NO AI): In this course and/or projects, my expectation is that you will not use any artificial intelligence (AI) powered programs such as ChatGPT or DALL-E to help you with your assignments. Any use of AI-generated work to outline, write, create, or edit your assignments will be considered an academic integrity violation. My reasoning for this is that these programs may provide inaccurate or biased information, but more importantly, they do not serve your development as a student. In this course you will learn valuable skills from outlining, generating, and editing your own work. If you have any questions about this policy or are not sure if a resource you have found will violate this policy, please ask.~~
- ~~b. Option 2 (some AI): In this course and/or projects, I encourage you to use artificial intelligence (AI) powered programs such as ChatGPT or DALL-E to help you with some assignments. When you use these tools, it is your responsibility as a scholar to make sure you are clearly communicating the AI involvement in your work.-~~



POLICY

Adopted: 2 April 2001
Revised: 30 March 2023

Revised:

First Read: 26 June 2025

Second Read:

