

Chelmsford Middle School Academic Honor Code

At Chelmsford Middle Schools, students are expected to maintain high moral and ethical standards. Students should respect themselves, other students, staff members and the school. The acts of cheating and plagiarism violate expectations that students will exhibit respectful, ethical behavior.

The Academic Honor Code exists to address the issues of cheating and plagiarism.

Cheating

The following will be considered cheating:

- Copying another student's answers on a test or quiz, with or without their permission
- Sharing questions from an exam with another student who has not yet taken the exam
- Copying another student's answers on a homework assignment
- Copying some other student's work and claiming it as your own
- Allowing another student to copy your work or giving your work to them to turn in as their own
- Use of electronic devices for unauthorized sharing of information.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a form of cheating. The following will be considered plagiarism:

1. Buying or downloading a paper from the internet and turning it in as your own
2. Turning in another student's work, with or without that student's knowledge, as your own.
3. Copying any portion of another's work without proper citation.
4. Paraphrasing ideas and language from a source without proper citation.

Why are cheating and plagiarism wrong?

- If you cheat others may no longer trust you and become suspicious of you.
- It is against the rules and there are serious penalties. People have been thrown out of college, lost jobs, and ruined their careers over cheating.

Consequences for Cheating or Plagiarism

7/8th Grade Consequence:

1. The student will receive a zero for the homework or assessment. A student will not be allowed the opportunity for make-up of any kind.
2. Teachers will notify parents/guardians of the offense.

3. A conference may be held with the student, teacher and an administrator.
4. Students will be required to attend an after school session on cheating and plagiarism.

5/6th Grade Consequence:

1. Teachers will notify parents/guardians of the offense
2. If a student has plagiarized, the teacher and or librarian will conference with the student. The student will be required to re-write the plagiarized portion. No academic penalty for 1st offense. 2nd offense will result in a zero on the homework or assessment.
3. If a student has cheated, the student will be required to attend a lunch session on cheating. The student will receive a zero on the homework or assessment.

Cheating and plagiarism are serious offenses. The school reserves the right to assign additional penalties for subsequent offenses.