



Marietta City Schools

International Baccalaureate Program

District Academic Integrity Policy

Rationale

The vision of Marietta City Schools is for all students to learn to their fullest potential. The district mission states, “In partnership with families and the community our mission is to prepare each student to maximize career, college, and life opportunities”. Both the vision and the mission of the district embrace the belief that all students should have opportunities to participate in and benefit from educational programs. The MCS IB programs are committed to developing ethical citizens and leaders who are prepared for the 21st century. Vital to this is promoting academic integrity with all students.

Marietta City Schools requires academic integrity to be embedded into the life of the school and where academic integrity is taught, expected, and practiced. An academic integrity policy ensures that a school’s procedures for this practice are transparent, fair, and consistent. Each IB school in Marietta City maintains an academic integrity policy aligned to this district policy.

It is the responsibility of every student, employee, and parent to exhibit integrity, honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility in academic work at all times to support a positive learning environment in the school.

Definition of Academic Integrity

Academic Integrity is, “a set of values and skills that promote personal integrity and good practice in teaching, learning, and assessment.” (IB 2011 pg. 2)

An IB District develops internationally minded learners aware of the importance of sharing a common goal to create and contribute to the development of a more peaceful world. Educators and learners strive to be: inquirers, knowledgeable, thinkers, communicators, principled, open-minded, caring, risk takers, balanced, and reflective.

IB learners strive to be “principled” (IB learner profile, revised version August 2013): 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

A student’s work should be based on their own ideas and should properly cite another’s work. (WIPO, 2004)

Definitions of Academic Misconduct

Malpractice

The IB Organization defines malpractice as behavior that results in, or may result in, the candidate or any other candidate gaining an unfair advantage in one or more assessment components.

Academic Misconduct

The IB organization defines academic misconduct as behavior (whether deliberate or inadvertent) that results in, or may result in, the candidate or any other candidate gaining an unfair advantage in one or more components of assessment.

Plagiarism

The IB organization defines this as the representation, intentionally or unwittingly, of the ideas, words or work of another person without proper, clear and explicit acknowledgment.

Collusion:

Allowing individual's work to be copied by another student or promoting misconduct by another student.

Duplication of Work:

When the same piece of work is submitted for a different assessment.

Facilitating Academic Dishonesty:

The intentional help, or attempt to help, another student to violate any provision of this Code.

Roles and Responsibilities

School

1. Create the academic integrity policy and foster a school environment where it is promoted and expected.
2. Communicate clearly what academic misconduct is and makes students aware of the consequences.

Teacher

1. Teach effective practices to implement the school's academic integrity policy.
2. Demonstrate appropriate practices through instruction and activities.
3. Work with students to confirm that all tasks are original works (and remediate when necessary).

Students

1. Turn in original work and properly acknowledge sources in accordance with assignment directions.
2. Review work before submission to ensure that all ideas have been documented and all sources cited.
3. Ensure in collaborative work that each individual's contribution is reflected.

Family/Parents Review and sign academic integrity policy and work with student to ensure all work is original.

Education, Guidance and Support:

MCS will focus on developing and supporting best practices of academic integrity.

Staff will introduce, model and check for understanding of best practices with all students.

Students will...

- Cite work
- Reference sources
- Recognize and understand the importance of citing sources
- Create original works and not copy the works of others
- Contribute equally with group based tasks
- Not allow another student to copy their work
- Refrain from behaviors that give an unfair advantage (eg. notes on a test, cheat sheets, acquiring information on a test ahead of time, etc.)

Possible Consequences of Academic Misconduct:

- Discipline referral sent to appropriate administrator.
- A grade of zero on the assignment or test.
- Notification to parents and teachers.
- Administrative conference with student.
- Other consequences as appropriate, which range from detention to out of school suspension.

This district policy should be reviewed annually and revised as necessary following the review.

Sources

- *Academic honesty in the IB educational context (2014)*
- *World Intellectual Property Organization. 2013. Available in : <http://www.wipo.int>. Last access on: January 3, 2017.*
- *MYP: From principles to practice. 2014. International Baccalaureate Organization.*