

# Great Neck South Middle School

## Statement of Academic Integrity

The South Middle School Community recognizes that the majority of our students work hard to present their own ideas in their homework, projects, essays, quizzes, tests, etc. Those who choose to become academically dishonest not only cheat themselves and their teachers, but also other students who show integrity in their efforts.

### What is academic integrity?

Academic integrity means being honest with yourself and your work. In order to have complete ownership over your education, **you** must be the one in charge of your learning. Stay honest to yourself and your academic potential when completing assignments. Your academic honesty becomes compromised when you engage in any of the following activities: copying another student's homework, discussing answers to an exam you have yet to take, glancing at a peer's test to "compare" answers, or putting your name on a piece of work that is truly not your own. While these actions may or may not seem serious to you, they are all significant offenses and cannot be condoned.

We are especially concerned about both plagiarism and cheating. Plagiarism is the use of other people's words and/or ideas, in whole or in part, as one's own work. The Great Neck Board of Education includes plagiarism and cheating, among other forms of academic misconduct, in the Prohibited Student Conduct section of the Code of Conduct: Prohibited Student Conduct [Policy 5300.30](#). Plagiarism and/or cheating may take many forms including, but not limited to the following:

- Allowing your own short or long-term assignment (i.e. homework, an essay, project, etc.) or quiz/test answers to be copied by another student.
- Submitting in whole or in part the work of another student or an assignment written by someone else.
- Allowing your partner or group member to complete all of the work for a given assignment.
- Copying word for word from any outside source without proper acknowledgement. This applies to the use of an entire paper, the use of entire sections and paragraphs, and the use of a few words, phrases and/or structure.
- Presenting ideas from any outside source (such as the internet, books, or encyclopedias) without properly crediting that source.
- Sharing files with another student.
- Submitting a foreign language assignment that has been written using translation devices or internet sites.
- Copying quiz and/or test answers from another student or sharing information regarding a quiz/test you have already taken with another student.

If plagiarism or cheating is suspected, the teacher will investigate the matter and will review the seriousness of the alleged offense with the student and/or the parent. If plagiarism and/or cheating is found to have occurred, then a range of consequences depending on the frequency of the offense will be considered as per Board of Education [Policy 5300.40](#); including severe grade reductions on that assignment.

You are intelligent and you are more than capable of thinking for yourself. Use your own ideas and words to make sense of the world around you; it is a smarter choice to make!

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I have read the above statements and I understand the need for academic integrity. I will adhere to the guidelines presented in the Great Neck South Middle School Statement of Academic Integrity.

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Student Signature

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Parent Signature