

MAYNARD HOLBROOK JACKSON HIGH SCHOOL

AND

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. MIDDLE SCHOOL

ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY

9/2016

Maynard Holbrook Jackson High School and Martin Luther King, Jr Middle School strive to encourage students to produce authentic academic products which demonstrate their personal understanding in all subject areas. Academic honesty is one of the hallmarks of a principled IB learner. In congruence with the IB philosophy, both schools “uphold principles of academic honesty, which are seen as a set of values and skills that promote personal integrity and good practice in teaching, learning and assessment.”

Stakeholders at both schools are committed to the academic, ethical and social development of each student in our learning environments. Fundamental to the learning process is the trust established between the teacher and the student. In order to establish an inherent predilection and to perpetuate a principled environment, stakeholders at both schools must adhere to the values of honesty and integrity.

Accordingly, in agreement with IB’s defining of malpractice and academic misconduct, Maynard Holbrook Jackson High School and Martin Luther King, Jr Middle School concur that malpractice is “behavior that results in, or may result in, the candidate or any other candidate gaining an unfair advantage in one or more assessment components.” To add, academic misconduct is “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.”

The Georgia Professional Standards and Atlanta Public School established an academic and assessment policy which aligns with IB’s philosophy vis-à-vis principled learners and learning. According to **Atlanta Public Schools Rule 5.1**-It is the responsibility of every student and employee to exhibit honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility in academic work at all times to support a positive learning environment in the school. Cheating, plagiarism and other acts of academic dishonesty are strictly prohibited. Students who cheat on standardized testing or are repeatedly dishonest can face expulsion or increased consequences. Examples of violations of this rule include, but are not limited to: copying or “borrowing” from another source and submitting it as one’s own work; seeking or accepting unauthorized assistance on tests, projects or other assignments; fabricating data or resources; providing or receiving test questions in advance without permission; or working collaboratively with other students when individual work is expected (p. 39).

1. Violations of [policy JFA Academic Integrity](#) shall be handled as violations of the student code of conduct and addressed via the progressive discipline guidelines in the Student Handbook. Student mastery of the standards covered by the assignment on which cheating was detected will be reassessed with supervision.

DOCUMENTATION OF SOURCE MATERIALS

Classroom instructors will determine how source materials will be documented i.e., MLA, APA, Chicago/Turabian, etc. Acknowledgment of all source materials, whether visual, audio, graphic, lectures, interviews broadcasts, maps are subject to proper documentation throughout student documents, films and oratories as well as on Works Cited page(s). Maynard Holbrook Jackson High School will purchase the license to utilize Turnitin as an additional tool to assist students in properly crediting the work of all authors and documenting their sources. Students will be mandated to use Turnitin before submitting their papers for final evaluation. The Likability Coefficient for student papers will be set at no more than 5%.

ESSENTIAL TERMINOLOGY

Both schools concur that a working terminology of what constitutes Academic Honesty assists students in making informed choices when constructing and authenticating their own work. Defining what constitutes Academic Honesty and Academic Dishonesty helps students to act responsibly and ethically throughout their entire academic career. Pertinent to this discussion are the following:

- Academic Integrity- Intellectual honesty, respect for another's intellectual property, personal truthfulness, and an aspiration for life-long learning for the sake of improving their own intellectual growth and development.
- Academic Misconduct- 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
- Authentic Authorship- undisputed origin of authorship (Collins Dictionary)
- Intellectual Property- refers to creations of the mind, such as inventions; literary and artistic works; designs; and symbols, names and images used in commerce (World Intellectual Property Organization-WIPO)
- Legitimate Collaboration- acceptable act of collaborating with someone else on assignments in situations and locations such as the classroom, online, media center, lectures or seminars, or when collaboration directives are expressed by the instructor
- Unacceptable Collusion-act of collaborating with someone else on an assessment exercise which is intended to be wholly your own work, or the act of assisting someone else to commit plagiarism (Maguire, 2003)

SUMMARY

Principled IB learners endeavor to create authentic academic products. Atlanta Public Schools and its components will work diligently with students to ensure that their working knowledge of pertinent Academic Honesty terminology and instructional practices and expectations are met with fidelity. Commitment to adhere to new Academic Honesty policies set forth by the district and IB will be ongoing.