OMHS Code of Academic Honesty and Integrity

Statement of Purpose

At Oak Mountain High School, we believe in the importance of a culture of honesty and moral responsibility. The purpose of the code is to establish an environment where students seek academic, social, and personal integrity.

OMHS Mission Statement

The mission of Oak Mountain High School is to empower each student for excellence.

We strive for...

- *a safe learning environment*
- *a rich and rigorous curriculum*
- *dynamic instruction*
- *quality extracurricular experiences*
- *an appreciation of diversity*
- *a strong sense of community*

OMHS Honor Code

Academic Dishonesty Defined	Examples include, but are not limited to:
Cheating: "Intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise." **Cheating**: "Misleading a teacher in some way so as to receive or attempt to receive credit for work not originated by the students or work performed with unauthorized assistance."	1. Copying, filming, taking photos of tests, quizzes, homework, or any assignment that is designated "individual" work and sending it to or receiving it from another student via email, cell phone call, texting, or other electronic or paper method. 2. Tapping, coughing, blinking, use of hand signals or gesturing to communicate with others during a test. 3. Discussing the test or major individual assignment with another student. 4. Any unauthorized aid. 5. Store notes on a cell phone, iPad, or by any other means during a test, quiz, or major writing assignment. 6. External or internal manipulation of the calculator (loading formulas).
Fabrication: "Intentional and unauthorized falsification or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise." **Fraud:** "A deception deliberately practiced in order to secure unfair or unlawful gain."	1. Creating false bibliographies. 2. Creating false lab results. 3. Presenting another person's work, all or only in part, as one's own, including assignments (essay, projects, research finds), images, technology, etc. 4. Forgery of signatures. 5. Doctoring or tampering with official documents, either through technological means or on hard copies.

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Plagiarism: "Deliberate adoption or reproduction of ideas or words or statements of another person as one's own without acknowledgement." "Use of passages, materials, words or ideas that come from someone or something else, without properly naming the source."	1. Copying and/or pasting of essays or other assignments. 2. Improper citations, either intentional or unintentional. 3. Having someone else do your work which you submit as your own. 4. Purchasing/downloading a work product.
Facilitating academic dishonesty: "Intentionally or knowingly helping or attempting to help another to cheat."	1. Giving homework answers to others 2. Letting others look on your papers or screen or cell phone for aid. 3. Giving test information, guidance, specific and/or non-specific to other students at any time. 4. Discussing the test after completion.
Misrepresentation: "Consists of providing false information or giving a false impression to an instructor concerning an academic exercise with the intent to deceive."	1. Using someone else's notes as your own on open note quizzes. 2. Creating fabricated excuses about why an assignment was not completed. 3. Making an untrue statement verbally or in writing.

Special Note on Collaboration –vs- Individual Work Product:
Teachers are expected to communicate with students in advance of the assignment if collaboration is permitted or if the work must be completed by the individual only. Unless an assignment expressly grants permission to collaborate, the student should assume it is not allowed.

Consequences

1. Teachers notify administration.
2. Teachers contact parents.
3. Students lose credit for assignment.
4. Students serve 3 days in ISD. (1st offense)
5. Students are dismissed from ALL honor societies.

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Accountability

Each student, parent, teacher, and administrator has a responsibility to promote an academic culture that respects and fosters individual achievement. To accomplish this, there is an expectation for all stakeholders involved.

Students are expected to…
- Demonstrate academic honesty in all aspects of their work.
- Seek assistance from their teachers.
- Encourage their peers to honor the code.
- Report any violations of the code.

Parents are expected to…
- Discuss the code with their child.
- Encourage their child to uphold the code.
- Model the tenets of the code.
- Support the effort by the faculty and administration to uphold the code.

Teachers are expected to…
- Develop and model best practices in their classroom.
- Embed the code into their syllabi.
- Discuss the violation(s) of the code with the student.
- Report violations to parents and administrators.

Administrators are expected to…
- Distribute, display, and publicize the code for students, parents, and teachers.
- Support students, parents, and teachers by creating an environment of academic honesty.
- Encourage teachers to use best practices in the classroom.
- Monitor and evaluate the implementation of the code, including notifying honor society advisers.

All Stakeholders are expected to…

Support the creation of a Professional Learning Community whose purpose it will be to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the code, to explore ways to enhance the program by researching ways to model and teach ethics, social responsibility, and character development.

References

Sources used for the development of the OMHS Code of Academic Honesty and Integrity include the programs created by Spain Park High School, Allen Independent School District Advanced Placement United States History Program, Mountain Brook Junior High School, and Harvard University. Other sources include definitions from the *American Heritage Dictionary*.

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I have read and understand the OMHS Code of Academic Honesty and Integrity. I understand that I will be held accountable for any infractions.

Student Signature _____   Date _____

Parent Signature _____   Date _____