The information age has enhanced and complicated the education experience in the 21st century. Information is easily obtained, easily confused, and easily shared with and by students. Developing and supporting principled teachers and students is essential. To these ends, the Middle Years Programs at Horizon Middle School and Sand Creek High School have established the following Academic Honesty Policy to clarify principled concepts for teaching and learning in our schools. All actions and behaviors considered to be qualified as academically dishonest, cheating, plagiarism, lying, or by any other means, violating the concepts of principle and integrity will not be tolerated. Disciplinary action is in accordance with the Falcon School District 49 Student Conduct Handbook.

The following examples will be considered academically dishonest:

1. Intentionally gaining an academic or co-curricular advantage by willfully and knowledgably breaking with integrity in the pursuit of achievement.
2. The above may be accomplished by any means whatsoever, including, but not limited to, the following: fraud, duress, deception, theft, talking, signs, gestures, copying from another student, allowing a second party to complete one’s own work, unauthorized collaboration, and the unauthorized use of study aids, memoranda, books, electronic programs, data, or other information.
3. Any attempt to be academically dishonest is a break with academic and/or co-curricular integrity.

The following will be considered plagiarism:

1. Presenting as one’s own words and work, the work, words, ideas, or the opinions of someone else without proper acknowledgement.
2. Borrowing the sequence of ideas, the arrangement of material, or the pattern of thought of someone else without proper acknowledgment.

The following will be considered lying:

1. The willful and knowledgeable telling of an untruth, as well as any form of deceit, attempted deceit, or fraud in an oral or written statement. This includes but is not limited to: lying to administration and/or teachers, falsifying any document(s) or letters by mutilation, addition or deletion.
2. The willful and knowledgeable withholding of information during the investigation of academic misconduct related.
1. Teachers are expected to provide expectations for each specific assignment.
2. Clarification and explanation of ethical academic behavior and practices per content area.
3. Clarification and explanation of the extent to which collaboration or group participation is permissible in preparing essays, assignments, homework, reports, laboratory reports, formative and summative assessments, exams, or any other work.
4. Clarification and explanation of the extent to which the use of study aids, memoranda, books, data, or other information is permissible to fulfill assignment requirements.
5. Guidelines on what constitutes plagiarism, including requirements for citing sources and all proper acknowledgement of sources.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Students are expected to request a clarification from a staff member of any component of the above ‘code of ethical behavior’ they do not understand.
2. Students are expected to follow through with ethical academic behavior and expect others to also follow a policy of integrity and honor.
3. Students are expected to review the school’s specific expectations found within the Falcon School District 49 Code of Conduct Handbook.
4. Students are expected to review these expectations with their parents/guardians and after doing so sign where indicated below. (As well as parents'/guardians’ signature.)

Student signature/date:

ALREADY SIGNED ON MAIN SIGNATURE PAGE

Parent/Guardian signature/date:

ALREADY SIGNED ON MAIN SIGNATURE PAGE

*borrowed and adapted from: IBO News Item May 15-2003; George Mason University Honor Code; Lexington High School Honor Code