



Policy on Academic Integrity

Philosophy: Academic integrity is essential for the health of South Texas BETA. We feel that students should learn the importance of honesty and integrity, and that students can only grow intellectually when they complete assignments without cheating. We also acknowledge that it is our responsibility to ensure that our students value academic integrity, and that they know how to avoid plagiarism and cheating.

We take a three-pronged approach to issues of academic integrity?

- 1) Preventative measures: In short, students must know school and teacher policies, and they deserve to know the reasons of these policies. Because specifics vary both by age group and discipline, faculty members must clearly explain their definitions of, and repercussions for, plagiarism and cheating. These explanations should be first introduced in the ninth grade and revisited each year. Because the school population and potential repercussions for cheating change between ninth and eleventh grade, students entering these grades will be provided particularly detailed explanations of school and classroom policies and expectations.
- 2) Measures after the fact: If a student is found cheating or submits plagiarized work, that student should be given a zero on the relevant assignment, and the student's parent will be notified. Teachers will also report all incidents of significant academic dishonesty (plagiarism and cheating) to the IB coordinator, CAS coordinator, counselors, National Honor Society sponsor(s), and appropriate administrator. After evaluating the specifics of a student's case, the above mentioned members of school will recommend penalties and outcomes they deem appropriate for the offense.

Students in the eleventh and twelfth grade who are IB examination candidates who are discovered to have knowingly plagiarized work internally:

The case is referred to the IB coordinator and Head of School.
If applicable, the student may be suspended from the status of IB Diploma candidate and no longer eligible for Diploma candidate recognition at Awards Assembly.