

MILLER CREEK MIDDLE SCHOOL ACADEMIC HONOR CODE

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Honor is one of a person's greatest attributes and most cherished traits. Without honor, students cannot achieve their maximum potential. Honor, character, and integrity are related to our school's key characteristics. An honor system is based on the premise that a person should hold these qualities up to the highest standards in all that he or she does.

Under the Honor Code at Miller Creek Middle School, it is expected that all students will demonstrate honesty and integrity in their conduct. Intentional lying, cheating, and stealing will not be tolerated under any circumstances. Any person who violates the Honor Code will be held accountable for compromising the honor and trust of our community.

Each student is responsible for upholding and enforcing the Honor Code. The Miller Creek Honor Code cannot work unless each student takes action when he or she believes anyone may have violated the Honor Code.

ACADEMIC HONOR CODE

1. I will take credit for my work. I will not cheat, help others cheat, or allow others to do my work for me.
2. I will not forge (fax/copy) signatures, records, information, or results.
3. I will not plagiarize. I will use quotations and cite sources when I use someone else's words and ideas.
4. I will be honest about my work with teachers, peers, and parent(s) / guardian(s).
5. I understand that I will receive a "zero" on any assignment where the honor code is broken.

Please sign and return to the office.

I, _____, will uphold all standards of the Miller Creek Academic Honor Code. I understand there will be direct consequences for any and all violations.

Student Signature _____ **Date:** _____

As the parent / guardian of _____, I have reviewed the Miller Creek Academic Honor Code with my student. I support and uphold the academic integrity of the Miller Creek community.

Parent Signature _____ **Date:** _____

(This document is based on the Honor Code of the College of William and Mary, the oldest university in the United States.)

VIOLATIONS OF MILLER CREEK MIDDLE SCHOOL ACADEMIC HONOR CODE

PLAGIARISM:

1. Using the words, work or opinions of someone else as though they were your own and not giving proper credit to the author(s). **Example:** You copy an essay or piece of written work from an internet site and submit it as your own work. You must give the author and the site credit.

***Note:** Even though you may share an idea with an author, if you find it in print, you must give that author credit.

2. Copying the presentation, material, or patterns of thought of someone else without giving proper credit. **Example:** You structure your paper, or part of it, the way a certain author on your subject has also arranged his / her ideas. You must give this author credit.

CHEATING:

1. Knowingly and willingly giving or taking advantage of the work of another student.

2. This unfair, dishonest, and unprincipled behavior includes, but is not limited to:

- copying from another student, using another student's work as one's own (fraud).
- pressuring another student to share his / her work for the purpose of copying.
- stealing work or tricking someone into giving away his / her information.
- use of signs or gestures to communicate information during a test.
- unauthorized use of study aids, notes, books, data, etc.
- any ATTEMPT at cheating will be considered cheating.
- forging: falsifying records, documents, and signatures (faking parent / guardian signatures, i.e. on permission slips, etc.).
- intentional aiding and abetting: helping someone cheat in any way.

(Ideas contained in the above are borrowed from the honor code of George Mason University)

CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATING THE ACADEMIC HONOR CODE

Infractions are cumulative throughout the school year. We use a progressive discipline model. Consequences for infractions of school rules can result in noon detention, parent contact, student counseling, suspension, expulsion, and notification of law enforcement. All suspensions include at least one month of LOP and possible noon detentions.

*A lowered citizenship grade may also result from any violation of the Honor Code and will be determined per teacher discretion. In addition, administrative guidance will be required for any student determined to be in violation of the Miller Creek academic honor code.