

South Charlotte Middle School Plagiarism/Cheating Policy

This policy is designed to enhance and enrich the academic and ethical education of students at South Charlotte Middle School. The information outlined in the following policy is intended to provide students with guidelines that promote academic integrity.

Examples of Academic Dishonesty include, but are not limited to:

- Copying assignments from others or allowing another student to copy your assignment.
- Looking at another's test or quiz or allowing another student to look at your test or quiz.
- Sending, receiving, or using information or any electronic device, such as a computer, cell phone, PDA, graphing calculator or programmable watch, during a test or quiz.
- Possession or use of unauthorized materials obtained from any source, including notes written on body parts or clothing during a test/quiz.
- Talking, signaling, and/or passing information during a test or quiz.
- Changing an answer after work has been graded, then presenting it as improperly graded.
- Sharing answers on a take-home exam, or asking or allowing another student to take an examination for you.
- Obtaining or seeing a test, quiz, or answer key before the test without the teacher's permission.
- Discussing or providing information about a quiz or test with students who have not yet completed the assessment.
- Retaining, copying, possessing, using, or circulating previously given examination materials, where those materials clearly indicate that they are to be returned to the teacher at the conclusion of the examination for use by another student.
- Submitting text or another's ideas from an encyclopedia, book, textbook, website, database, or any other source as your own *without proper citation*.
- Hiring someone to write your paper. Buying a paper or project. Allowing others to do the research and writing of an assigned paper for you. Turning in a paper retrieved from an Internet source, whether free or for a fee.
- Allowing another person to do your work, and then submitting that work under your own name.
- Falsifying or inventing information, data, and/or citations.
- Changing grades in a grade book or altering a computer-grading program.
- Allowing a partner or other group members to do all the work, and then putting your name on the final report. Putting the name of a group member or partner on a final report when that person did not contribute to the finished product.

Consequences of Cheating/Plagiarism:

According to the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools Student Code of Conduct Handbook, misrepresentation (plagiarism, cheating, and forgery) is a Tier I/Tier II offense. Below is a list of consequences that will be used at the discretion of the teacher and administrator in whole or in part.

Cheating Consequences:

First Offense (not limited to numbers 1-3)—

1. A zero on the assignment (assignment cannot be made up for credit)
2. Parent Notification (teacher discretion)
3. Lunch Detention/Alternative Healthy Living

The additional consequences listed below may also be enforced for formal assessments/projects and/or multiple offenses:

4. Referral to the office
5. A meeting with the principal, guidance counselor, and parents
6. 1-3 day in-school or out-of-school suspension
7. Revoked membership in the National Junior Honor Society and/or Student Council

Note: The South Charlotte administration may use discretion when issuing additional consequences.

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Please copy (print) the following student statement:

Plagiarism/Cheating in any form is unacceptable at South Charlotte Middle School. I have read the information on plagiarism/cheating and the consequence, and I will adhere to the South Charlotte Middle School Plagiarism/Cheating Policy.

STUDENT SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

Please read and sign the following parent statement:

Plagiarism/Cheating in any form is unacceptable at South Charlotte Middle School. I have read the information of plagiarism/cheating and the consequence, and I will support the school's Plagiarism/Cheating Policy.

PARENT SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____