



# Camerado Springs Middle School

## Academic Integrity Policy

### **Our Belief**

The purpose of an academic integrity policy is to promote the development of the skills and knowledge needed to be academically honest. It also serves to support students, staff, and parents in creating a learning community where academic integrity is taught, expected and practiced.

### **Students who demonstrate Academic Integrity are:**

**Inquirers** - Those who possess the skills to conduct inquiry, research, and show independence in their work.

**Knowledgeable** - Those who explore concepts across a broad and balanced range of disciplines.

**Principled** - Those who act with integrity and honesty and take responsibility for their own actions.

**Communicators** - Those who can articulate ideas and concepts clearly. Those who can advocate for support when needed.

Camerado believes that these qualities are what lead to exemplary practices, both in and out of the classroom. Characteristics will be introduced, modeled and encouraged in each classroom and all areas on campus.

### **What is an "original idea"?**

Academic integrity means more than simply following the rules; it means acting with integrity and respecting the work of others. An "original idea" is considered material created by an individual without a heavy reliance on an external influence. We have provided three definitions to help clarify what an "original idea" means.

**Intellectual Property** - material that results from the original, creative thought of a person, which includes forms of expression such as music, videos, photos, printed material and classwork.

**Authentic Authorship** - the work submitted is an individual's original idea with the ideas of others fully acknowledged. Work must wholly and authentically use the student's own language, expression and ideas (voice).

**Collaborative Creation**- Working together on a common task, with permission of the teacher, to create an original idea/work/project. \*Note: Copying the work of others or relying on collaboration to "do the work for you" is called collusion and is NOT acceptable.

### **Acceptable ways to reference the work of others**

Referencing the work of others is "giving credit where credit is due." If it's not your idea, that's OK, but cite where you got it from and use your own words to explain it (paraphrase). At Camerado, we have adopted the Modern Language Association (MLA) format for citing resources in all our subject areas. All teachers and staff members support the use of MLA and will provide necessary instruction to all students to ensure work is appropriately cited. Parents are encouraged

and expected to support their student, and the Camerado teachers, in order to maintain academic integrity. Resources are available online at [www.mla.org](http://www.mla.org) or <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/11/>. Students who have questions regarding whether or not something constitutes plagiarism have a responsibility to consult with the teacher PRIOR to submitting their work.

Please Note: Buckeye Union School District has filters in place which help prevent plagiarism and this use is supported by Camerado Springs Middle School.

### **What is “Academic Dishonesty” (Malpractice)?**

Camerado believes Academic Dishonesty (Malpractice) to be any form, intentional or not, of passing off another’s work as your own. We hold this to be true for all of our subject areas. It is expected that students appropriately cite all material that is not an original idea, as outlined above. The following are examples of malpractice:

**Plagiarism:** representing the ideas or work of another person as your own:

- Copying what someone else has written without using quotation marks and appropriate citation
- Using someone else’s ideas and putting them into your own words (paraphrasing) without using appropriate citation
- Just as with printed materials, all internet sources must be cited as well

**Collusion:** allowing someone to copy your work or copying someone else’s work and presenting it as your own.

**Duplication of Work:** submitting the same work to multiple classes.

### **Consequences for Academic Dishonesty**

Camerado teachers and staff believe student behavior and actions should be rewarded accordingly. We consider academic dishonesty to be a serious offense, both academically and personally. The severity of the offense will be determined by the Head of Schools (principal, assistant principal, and/or teacher) and based on the language provided previously. Consequences may include, but are not limited to, verbal reprimand, loss of credit for work, detention, extended detention.

The following are examples of *additional* steps that may be taken:

1. The incident may be reported to the administration.
2. The incident may be recorded in the student’s academic record.
3. Parents/guardians may be contacted to arrange a meeting.
4. Guidelines may be set for the student to complete the assignment (loss of academic credit or points may still occur).

### **General Guidelines**

The IB MYP and Camerado Staff believe teachers are responsible for guiding and supporting students in developing academic integrity. A strong emphasis is placed on being a responsible, global citizen and a principled individual. As such, we expect the following from our MYP students:

- Paraphrase and appropriately cite the work of others
- Work **collaboratively** with teacher direction
- **Respect** the work of others
- Do their own thinking and their own work
- Be **responsible** and advocate for help if needed
- **Be principled**

### **Works Cited**

International Baccalaureate Organization, *Academic Honesty*: Geneva, Switzerland. 2007.

International Baccalaureate Organization, *Making the MYP Happen*: Geneva, Switzerland 2000.

**With permission, ideas for organization and wording were borrowed from the IB MYP Academic Honesty Policies of:** H. Clarke Powers Middle School, Loomis, CA and Parkway Middle School, Kissimmee, FL

*Reviewed Dec. 2019; October 2020; Dec. 2020; May 2022; Feb. 2023*



# Cameron Springs Middle School

## Academic Integrity Policy Review

\*\*\*\*\*

- I understand that any work I submit for academic purposes must be my own original work.
- I will properly cite sources when the ideas are not my own, and if I am unsure how to do this, I will ask for help.
- I will not copy other students' work; I will not allow other students to copy my work.

**I have read and understand that I must follow the school's academic integrity policy.**

Student name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

- I will support the academic integrity policy and promote good practice in my student.
- I will encourage and support my student to be a principled learner who acts with integrity.

**I have read the school's academic integrity policy and have reviewed it with my child.**

Parent/Guardian name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*\*Please return this signed policy acknowledgement to your child's AR Teacher. Thank you!*