

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

The East Millinocket School Department expects the pursuit of excellence in all learning environments. The ideals of honesty, trust, and personal responsibility are fundamental to a learning environment committed to excellence.

Academic integrity in East Millinocket Schools is predicated on these ideals. Learners, in their quest for higher levels of achievement, will be challenged to explore, question, analyze and critique. Each learner has the responsibility to do so acknowledging and honoring at all times the ideals and subtleties embodied in academic integrity.

While no policy can identify all possible breaches of academic integrity, any act willful or not, compromising the ideals of academic integrity will result in a prompt response appropriate for the offense.

Offenses extend to but are not limited to the following:

Cheating- Giving or receiving academic or non-academic information for school assignments and/or for school based competition or other East Millinocket School Department learning events where an unfair advantage over others is intended. Cheating is inexcusable. Examples of cheating may include:

1. Unauthorized prior knowledge of exams
2. Submitting the same assignment in two different classes without the permission of the instructor
3. Copying or allowing others to copy tests, quizzes, homework or other assignments.
4. Unauthorized use of resources (notes, files, formulas, study aids, computer/tech. devices) for tests and other assignments where use has been prohibited.
5. Collaborating with another student(s) on an assignment intended to be completed independently.

Plagiarism- The deliberate presentation of ideas, work, writings, language and statements as one's own without crediting the author or citing the source. Examples of plagiarism may include:

1. Paraphrasing another's written ideas and presenting them as one's own.
2. Copying from another source without proper citation and crediting.
3. Copying information, ideas, and works from internet sources without acknowledging the source (not knowing how to properly cite sources will not excuse this action. Students should consult with the teacher who issued the assignment concerning proper citations, prior to it being due).

Fabrication- Inventing or distorting the original information for the substance of the information. Example of fabrication may include:

1. Citing a non-existent source.
2. Creating data or distorting data to support a thesis or a conclusion.
3. Citing a source that was not consulted or is not represented in the work submitted.
4. Misrepresenting personal circumstances in an effort to avoid an assignment or deadline or as an excuse for not meeting scholastic responsibilities.

Fraud- Deception to secure a profit or gain. Examples may include:

1. Forging signatures or tampering with official results and/or records.
2. Passing off someone else's product as one's own.

All learners are expected to promote a climate where academic integrity remains fundamental to East Millinocket School Department's culture of excellence. Faculty shall lead by example and abide by the same rules, faculty shall review with students annually the expectations for academic integrity, and students are expected to ask for clarification if they have questions regarding permissible acts for an assignment, exam, or project.

CONSEQUENCES

The instructor has the authority to give a student a zero on an assignment or assessment in which cheating, plagiarizing, fabricating, or fraudulent acts have been proven to have occurred. The instructor **may** allow a student to re-do or rewrite an assignment or retake an exam. To ensure fairness, giving an alternate assignment or assessment may be necessary and the student cannot receive higher than a **maximum score of 70, or another score that is used as a minimum for passing**, for their grade.

Any violation of this policy is to be reported to school administration immediately where further disciplinary action will be considered in the form of loss of school privileges (ex: modified attendance, recess), detention, and suspension. Repeat offenders of this policy may face more severe consequences including, but not limited to, detention, suspension, and possible expulsion.

Adopted: January 22, 2020