



Roberto Clemente Middle School

Academic Integrity Policy



The staff and students at Roberto Clemente Middle School actively support and build a community built on academic integrity through foundational values and skills that promote personal integrity. The development of these values and skills is facilitated by:

- i. a shared definition of academic integrity
- ii. identifying how teachers promote academic integrity
- iii. identifying how students demonstrate academic integrity
- iv. identifying how families support academic integrity.

Through a strong foundation of academic integrity, students at Roberto Clemente Middle School become inquirers who develop skills needed to conduct research, open-minded citizens who seek and evaluate a range of points of view, and principled young adults who act with integrity.

i. Definition of Academic Integrity

Academic Integrity: a principle, informed by the attributes of the learner profile that serves to promote personal integrity and respect for others and the integrity of their work. (From Principles into Practice, pg. 38)

Academic Dishonesty includes:

Plagiarism - using the ideas or work of another person as your own, such as copying language from a book or website and not citing its origin

Collusion - helping someone else be academically dishonest, such as allowing your own work to be copied by another

Misconduct- refusing to follow directions, such as taking test materials from a classroom or using prohibited electronic devices

ii. Staff at Roberto Clemente Middle School promote academic integrity when they:

- facilitate understanding of academic integrity and its importance
- help students learn definitions of academic dishonesty, plagiarism, collusion, and misconduct and how to avoid those practices
- model practices of academic integrity
- promote ethical research skills by using styles such as MLA and APA
- value and encourage students to develop their own voice, language, and ideas and provide the space for them to do so

iii. Students at Roberto Clemente Middle School demonstrate academic integrity when they:

- are honest in presenting all of their work

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- acknowledge help from parents, other students, and friends
 - know what constitutes academic dishonesty and how to abide by the rules of academic integrity
 - say “no” to students who want to copy their work
 - feel that their ideas are valued and that they can confidently present ideas using their own original voice
 - implement the teachers’ guidelines for collaborative group and individual work
 - use technology and library resources properly
 - acknowledge sources in appropriately cited bibliographies
 - seek guidance from teachers when unsure how to follow expectations of academic integrity as outlined in the Community Agreements
- iv. Families of Roberto Clemente Middle School students support academic integrity when they:
- become familiar with the academic integrity policy and procedures
 - support students at home to make academically honest decisions
 - collaborate with school staff and students to determine next steps after academic dishonesty occurs
 - contact the staff member to discuss any questions or concerns

At Roberto Clemente Middle School, a student whose academic integrity has been brought into question will have the opportunity to engage in a reflective conversation with their teacher and to then complete the specified assignment honestly. The purpose of reflection is to facilitate growth in decision making and should include students, caregivers, and staff. The student will have the opportunity to demonstrate an understanding of academic integrity. The outcomes will be communicated to all stakeholders.