

ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY

As an academic community, the Franklin Public Schools will not tolerate academic dishonesty. Any activity of this nature is in opposition to the goals of the school as a place of learning and is contrary to the values of the school and the community. Dishonesty is not merely a private matter between teacher and student, but is a concern to the entire school community.

Academic Dishonesty, external to the Franklin Public Schools, but implicitly related to the student's status as a Franklin Public Schools student, such as but not limited to College Board Examinations and College recommendations, will be considered particularly serious infraction of the academic honesty policy. It not only harms the individual student but it directly harms the reputation of the Franklin Public Schools and possibly the future prospects of other Franklin Public Schools students.

All cases of academic dishonesty will be noted by the faculty member and will be reported to the administration and to the student's respective guidance counselor. Students are warned about the intensity of this policy. The administration and faculty hope that each student respects the integrity of our academic programs and responds appropriately.

Each school level (Elem, Middle, High) will develop guidelines that address violations and procedures. Rules will be reviewed by the School Committee and the Superintendent of Schools. Guidelines will be published in all student/parent handbooks.

Appeals Process

Any student who is reported as violating this policy will be granted all due process rights.

1. In cases of suspensions for ten days or less, the student has the following rights:
 - a. the right to oral or written notice of charges against him/her.
 - b. the right to an explanation of the evidence which the school authorities have against him/her.
 - c. the opportunity to present his/her side of the story.
2. For suspension longer than ten days, more formal procedures could be required. Those procedures may include:
 - a. the right to cross-examine witnesses against the student.
 - b. time to prepare for a hearing.
 - c. the right to present witnesses and testimony
 - d. the right to counsel

3. These more formal procedures may be required in some suspensions of less than ten days. Where, for example, the outcome of the case rests mainly on the credibility of the witnesses and the student, the student may have the right to confront his accusers. Similarly, if the suspension seriously calls into question the character of the student, then more elaborate procedures may apply.
4. Although the above procedures should normally precede the suspension or expulsion, in emergency situations the student may be summarily removed from the public school, with a hearing to follow as soon as possible.

CROSS REF.: Franklin Public School Student Handbook