

English Department
Neshaminy High School
Student Contract on Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty

As teachers in Neshaminy High School's English Department, we expect our students to develop original, creative and authentic work. For this reason, students need to understand academic dishonesty and consequences.

"Cheating is morally wrong and, of course, cheating is illegal. Teachers establish appropriate academic penalties that are supported by the administration. Teachers are encouraged to review standards regarding cheating during the first days of school and with parents on Back-to-School Night" (*Neshaminy High School Student Handbook*).

Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty include the following:

- Stealing or using part or all of someone else's work or ideas and presenting them as your own;
- Submitting a paper that someone else has written;
- Using information from the internet without citing the source or sources;
- Having someone else do your work for you;
- Having your work edited to the point that it is no longer your work;
- Buying a paper from any source;
- Submitting anything that is not your own work;
- Copying another student's answer on a quiz or examination;
- Failing to document sources, whether quoted or paraphrased, according to MLA format;
- Failing to use quotation marks to indicate a direct quotation.

I will accept the consequences of my actions.

I understand that plagiarism is a very serious concern. Any instance of plagiarism will result in a grade of **ZERO** with no possibility of making the grade up. I also understand that incidents will result in a phone call to a parent and possibly a disciplinary referral. I also understand that acts of plagiarism **can jeopardize my membership in the National Honor Society**.

I understand that paraphrasing is necessary when using sources. Paraphrasing is more than just changing a few words or changing the order of the original. Good paraphrasing involves analyzing the original document and explaining it to the reader. Failure to properly paraphrase is plagiarism.

I understand that all work is to be individual in nature unless noted explicitly by the teacher. Showing my work to another student or consulting someone else's assignment will be considered cheating and/or plagiarism.

I am aware of the expectations concerning plagiarism and paraphrasing and I will follow these expectations. If I am unsure how to do an assignment, I will ask my teacher.

Print your name _____ Date _____

Student signature _____ Course and Teacher _____

Parent/Guardian signature _____ Date _____