

MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Procedures for Addressing Academic Dishonesty
 July 2, 2007



www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/info/grading

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to address grading procedures in cases of academic dishonesty. Examples of academic dishonesty include, but are not limited to, the following: the willful giving or receiving of an unauthorized, unfair, dishonest, or unscrupulous advantage in academic work over other students using fraud, duress, deception, theft, trickery, talking, signs, gestures, copying, or any other methodology. If a teacher determines that a student engaged in academic dishonesty, thereby not meeting the basic requirements of the task/assessment, the teacher may assign a zero.

Rationale

It is important for students to learn that academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and a range of consequences can be administered to the student. The student's grade on the task/assessment may be affected.

Since teachers assess student learning in a variety of ways over time within a grading period, students will have other opportunities to demonstrate their understanding of course objectives.

Policy IKA, *Grading and Reporting*, states that the grading and reporting practices, as they pertain to grading procedures, must provide the following:

- Accurate reflection of student achievement outlined in the Montgomery County Public Schools curriculum
- Fair representation of a student's performance on a variety of measures over time

In addition, Policy IKA includes these essential concepts:

- All students are consistently held to high expectations (B.1)
- Grades are based on multiple and varied measures over time (B.2)

A Student's Guide to Rights and Responsibilities, based on Policy JFA, *Student Rights and Responsibilities*, and accompanying Regulation JFA-RA, *Student Rights and Responsibilities*, emphasizes the importance of academic honesty:

- Academic honesty, not receiving or attempting to receive an unfair advantage in academic work, is an essential component of an effective learning environment. Therefore, the local school discipline plan should reflect the critical role academic honesty plays in creating and maintaining an effective learning environment.

Expectations

Students are expected to demonstrate integrity by accepting responsibility for their learning and for the accurate evidence of this learning. These procedures are designed to ensure that grades are fair and accurately reflect student achievement.