



THE GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL
for
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Honor Pledge

What is cheating?

- Copying or sharing information with others during a quiz or test.
- Using any unauthorized sources during a quiz or test. (Keep notebooks closed, etc.)
- Copying another student's coursework or asking another student for answers to questions on homework or other assignments.

What is plagiarizing?

- Using ideas or information from a source without giving proper credit to the source. Sources may be websites, books, scientific journals, magazines, television programs, people you communicate with, etc. When questioning whether something is a source that should be cited, ask your instructor. Be sure to use in-text citations within paragraphs and then include the source(s) of your information in a list of references.
- Copying and pasting text from a source without putting the text in quotations and citing the source. Teachers at GSST generally do not want quotes. We want you to read the information, think about it, and summarize it in your own words. Then, cite the source of your information. **So, do not copy and paste from a website and turn the work in as your own. This is plagiarism!**

Avoiding plagiarism is important -- both in writing and speaking. When you properly acknowledge the contributions to knowledge made by other people, you are showing respect for their work, and you are giving credit where credit is due. You are not misleading the reader to believe that your work is solely your own.

Please use good judgment, do your own work, and give credit to your sources. When in doubt, ask your instructor if what you are doing is appropriate. The last thing any instructor wants to do is deal with disciplinary action for these reasons!

Disciplinary Action:

If a student violates the GSST Honor Pledge, he or she will receive a grade of zero for the assignment, test, or quiz, and the student may be referred to the GSST administration for further disciplinary action. Regarding copying the work of other students, no determination will be made regarding who copied from whom; all students involved will receive the same consequences.

The academic community highly values the acknowledgment of other people's contributions to knowledge. The disciplinary consequences of academic dishonesty at GSST can be severe. *As a student you could receive a failing grade, suspension from school, jeopardize references or in extreme cases, you could lose your scholarship awards and acceptance into college.*

The student's signature below indicates that he or she commits to the Honor Pledge stated below and understands that disciplinary action will occur if a violation occurs.

I pledge to support the Governor's School for Science and Technology (GSST) Code for Academic Work. I will refrain from any dishonesty or deception, such as cheating or plagiarizing, which are honor code violations, on any and all academic work. I am further aware that as a member of the academic community, I should report any suspected violations to an instructor.

Student's Signature: _____ Date: _____

I understand that my child, _____ (print student name) is committing to the Governor's School's Honor Pledge and that any violation of this pledge will cause the student to receive a grade of zero on the coursework or assessment and the student may be referred to the GSST administration for disciplinary action.

Parent/Guardian's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Student Use of turnitin.com

Students will be submitting work to turnitin.com. Turnitin.com compares submitted documents to its existing database and to over two million sources online for similarities. Turnitin.com provides an "originality report" for the submitted work. GSST encourages students to use turnitin.com as a learning tool.

Obviously, plagiarism is not allowed on GSST documents. Students will have extensive instruction regarding what constitutes violations. If a student document has a turnitin.com evaluation that indicates plagiarism, the student should re-write the document and re-submit the revision to turnitin.com. Instructors will grade the revised document. All documents are subject to GSST Honor Pledge.

I understand that GSST will use turnitin.com as part of the evaluation of student work.

Student's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian's Signature: _____ Date: _____