



Patchogue-Medford School District

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Superintendent of Schools
Administrative Center
241 South Ocean Avenue
Patchogue, New York 11772

(631) 687-6380
(631) 687-6369 Fax

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Dear School Community,

I'm writing to inform you about our recently updated Academic Integrity Policy.

<https://www.pmschools.org/cms/lib/NY01001244/Centricity/Domain/10/5129%20-%20Academic%20Integrity%20August%202018.pdf>

The Patchogue-Medford School District is committed to fostering an environment where honesty, trust, and personal achievement are valued above all else.

The updated policy clearly defines various forms of academic misconduct, including:

1. Cheating
2. Plagiarism
3. Fabrication of data/information
4. Academic dishonesty
5. Unauthorized use of Artificial Intelligence tools
6. Testing misconduct

It's crucial to understand that academic integrity is fundamental to a student's educational journey and personal growth. Engaging in academic misconduct not only undermines a student's own learning but also strains the trust within our school community and can have far-reaching consequences.

Students should be aware that academic misconduct can lead to several serious outcomes, such as:

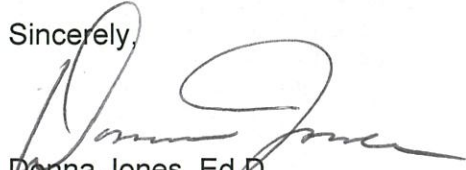
- Damage to relationships with teachers and peers.
- Potential loss of recommendation letters for college applications.
- Mandatory reporting of suspensions related to academic misconduct on college applications for private schools.
- Long-term impact on their academic and professional futures.

We encourage students to prioritize genuine learning and to develop strong study habits. If there is ever any uncertainty about proper citation methods or the appropriate use of resources, we urge students to consult with their teachers before submitting assignments.

We kindly request that all families review the complete Academic Integrity Policy with their children. You can find the policy (Policy #5129) under the Board of Education link on our district website's homepage.

By working together to uphold academic integrity, we can ensure a fair and enriching educational experience for all our students. Thank you for your support in maintaining the high standards of our school community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donna Jones", written over a horizontal line.

Donna Jones, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools