

ROANOKE VALLEY CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS FAMILY-SCHOOL COVENANT/CHEATING POLICY

According to the Bible, parents are responsible for the training of their children. Roanoke Valley Christian Schools makes disciples of Christ in obeying the command of God to train students in truth. There must be harmony between home and school for godly training to take place. (Deut. 6:1-7; Prov. 22:6; Eph. 6:1-4) This covenant verbalizes some of the basic principles that, if followed, will result in the maturity we are all seeking in the lives of our children.

LIFE PRINCIPLES

RESPECT *An attitude that highly esteems those in properly placed authority.*

Parents, teachers, employers, governmental authority, and church leaders have been placed in our lives by God. We have a Biblical command to honor them because God says so, and it is for our own good. (Rom. 13:1-7; Heb. 13:7; I Peter 2:13-21; I Thess. 5:12-13)

OBEDIENCE *The outworking of the attitude of respect.*

We are to obey God and all those He has placed over us in our lives. When we obey, we show our love and respect for God and the authorities He has ordained. Our lives then will be long and fruitful as He has promised. (John 14:21; Eph. 6:1-4; Rom. 13:1-7)

DISCIPLINE *The correction that comes when we disobey.*

Discipline is a sure sign of love. Though never enjoyable at the moment, it later brings righteousness and peace. The goal is to have a life under control--self-disciplined by the Spirit of God as seen in Gal. 5:22-26. (Prov. 3:11-12, 6:23; Heb. 12:4-13)

HOLINESS *A lifestyle that exhibits the fruit of the Spirit and flees from the acts of our sinful nature.*

Our standards are found in God's Word and our desire must be one with God and His holiness. (Gal. 5:16-26; II Tim. 2:22; I Peter 1:13-16, 2:9-10; I Cor. 6:12-20; Prov. 23:29-35, Phil. 4:8)

WISDOM *Understanding what is true and doing what is right in any situation.*

Wisdom comes from God and our respect for Him. It is developed in our lives by our proper response to correction. If we do not respond to correction with a teachable spirit, the Bible calls us fools and unable to attain wisdom. (Prov. 1:7, 20-33, 2:1-22)

RESPONSIBILITY *Being trustworthy and accountable in all relationships and tasks.*

We are accountable to each other to love, encourage, confront, comfort, and forgive. Furthermore, initiative and excellence should be the marks of all tasks we attempt. (I Cor. 13; Matt. 18:15-17; Gal. 6:1-5; Eph. 5:29-32; Eccl. 9:10)

POLICY REGARDING CHEATING

DEFINITION

- Cheating is both lying and stealing. It is lying because you give the impression of knowing or doing what you do not know or have not done. It is stealing because it is taking from someone else. (synonyms: fraud, deception, dishonesty)
- Cheating is not just taking but using another student's work when expressly told to work individually (this includes parental help as well).
- One who aids in cheating is as guilty as the one who accepts another's work or help.
- Concerning parental help - the parent should show the children the difference in how to arrive at an answer as compared to actually doing the work for them.
- Cheating is **not** situational - there are definite boundaries. God's Word gives the principles. (Exodus 20:15, Proverbs 20:17, Ephesians 4:28; James 4:17)

EXAMPLES OF CHEATING

- **RECEIVING** answers during a quiz or test in any way - orally, copying from another student, or looking at any other source containing answers. (Looking on another student's paper or at any other source of information for that subject during a testing time is considered cheating whether you change your answer(s) or not.)
- **GIVING** answers during a test or quiz, either orally or by intentionally allowing another student to copy them.
- **OBTAINING** test or quiz questions and/or answers in advance through unauthorized means. (A person giving someone else access to these is also guilty of cheating.)
- **ALTERING** or filling in of answers, either the student's own or another's, when grading tests or quizzes in the classroom.
- **HAVING** another student's homework, test, quiz or workbook without permission by the teacher of that subject to do so.
- **COPYING** of homework answers. (Students may occasionally be encouraged or permitted to "work together" either within or outside the classroom. Even then, students should only help each other, not simply give/receive answers. **If there is any doubt about the appropriateness of this, the teacher of that subject should be consulted.**)
- **NOT HAVING** totally completed work but giving the impression of having done so.
- **COMPUTER DISKS** containing any assignments are to be used only by that student. They are **NEVER** to be used by any other student for any reason. Having another student's disk in your possession is cheating.
- **COPYING** assignments from a disk or a computer for another student is cheating.

CONSEQUENCES OF CHEATING

A. If "nobody else" knows -

1. Loss of fellowship with God
2. Loss of respect for one's self
(personal dignity)

B. If "caught" cheating -

1. Loss of trust in relationships
2. Loss of clean reputation
3. Loss of points academically - suspension, etc.