

# Fort Bend ISD GT Academy Commitment Form

## **Academy Expectations:**

Students enrolled in academies are held to higher standards. Students in the GT Academy are expected to represent the campus and Academy in a positive and respectful manner.

Probation in the Academy is defined as notification and required interventions as outlined by the district administration. All probationary requirements will be implemented to improve student success in needed areas.

Dismissal is defined as removal from the academy program and return to the zoned campus. All dismissals will be reviewed by the Academy Review Committee.

## **Grades:**

Students must maintain a 70 or higher in their courses. The Academy Coordinator will monitor student grades at each progress report. If a student's grades fall below a 70 at a progress report, the student will be required to attend tutorials as outlined by the Academy Coordinator and appropriate classroom teacher. In the event that a student fails to meet expectations at the end of a semester, he/she will be placed on probation for one semester.

Two consecutive semesters below the standard will result in dismissal from the Academy and return to the zoned campus at the end of the semester in which the second violation occurs.

Failure to pass any course at the end of the academic year will result in a review by the Academy Review Committee to determine probation or dismissal.

## **Conduct:**

Discipline referrals resulting in In School Suspension (ISS) will be handled in the following manner:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Offense = warning
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense = probation to remain in place for one academic year. Parent/Guardian and student will be required to sign an acknowledgment of consequences for further ISS referrals.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense = discretionary removal from the academy at the end of the semester during which the dismissal is made. Decision will be made by the Academy Dismissal Committee.
- 4<sup>th</sup> Offense = mandatory removal from the academy at the end of the current semester.

Discipline referrals resulting in Out of School Suspension (OSS) will be handled in the following manner:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Offense = probation to remain in place for one academic year. Parent/Guardian and student will be required to sign an acknowledgement of consequences for further OSS referrals.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense = discretionary removal from the academy at the end of the semester as determined by a review committee.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense = mandatory removal from the academy at the end of the current semester.

Discipline referrals resulting in ISS and/or OSS will be considered collectively. Three or more total offenses will result in discretionary removal. Four or more total offenses will result in mandatory removal.

Referrals resulting in placement in the District Alternative Education Program (DAEP) will result in immediate removal from the academy and return to the zoned campus upon completion of the DAEP assignment.

## **Field Experiences:**

In order to participate in an Academy field experience, students must not have earned a conduct mark lower than an "S" on the most recent progress/grading report and he/she must be passing all classes at the time of the field experience.

Students are expected to attend all field experiences offered through the GT Academy. For safety purposes, **students must be dressed in GT Academy attire (jeans and team shirt) for all field experiences** unless otherwise notified. If the student is not

in compliance with GT Academy attire and/or has not made prior arrangements to be excused from the trip, the student will not participate in the trip and will remain on campus for the duration of the field experience. Permission to be excused from a field experience must be submitted to the Academy Coordinator twenty-four (24) hours prior to the trip unless the absence is due to an illness or a death in the family.

Students are expected to comply with school rules, school dress code or GT Academy dress code, and exhibit good taste in appearance and social behavior on campus and on field experiences. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action, probation for non-compliance with GT Academy guidelines and/or dismissal from the Academy. Referrals will be considered on an individual basis and may result in dismissal from the Academy.

### **Honor Code**

As a GT Academy student, you join a community of learners who are committed to academic excellence. The faculty of the GT Academy at Quail Valley Middle School expects students to pursue their studies with integrity and honesty; however, all students should know that incidents of academy dishonesty are taken very seriously.

It is your responsibility to know what constitutes academic dishonesty. Interpretations of academic dishonesty may differ among individuals and groups. However, as a GT Academy student, you are expected to refrain from the behavior outlined below. If you are unclear about a specific situation, speak to your teacher, assistant principal, or Academy Coordinator.

Honor Code violations fall into the categories of cheating/plagiarism and/or lying. Cheating and plagiarizing are unacceptable behaviors that have moral and legal implications.

The following list identifies some of the activities defined as academic dishonesty:

#### ***Cheating***

- Copying, in part, or in whole, from someone else's test, homework, project;
- Altering or interfering with grading;
- Using or consulting, during a test, or examination, any sources, consulting with others, use of electronic equipment including cell phones and PDAs, or use of material not authorized by the teacher.

#### ***Plagiarism***

- Incorporating the ideas, words, sentences, paragraphs, or parts of another person's writing, without giving appropriate credit, and presenting the product as your own;
- Submitting a paper that was purchased from a research or term paper service, including the Internet; or
- Undocumented Web source usage.

#### ***Other Examples***

- Allowing another student to copy your homework, or from your paper during a test, or examination;
- Giving your homework, essay, project, or other work to another student to copy;
- Altering a graded assignment or test after it has been returned, then submitting the work for re-grading;
- Collaboration without permission from the teacher.
- Turning in work that is not your own.

#### **First Offense:**

- The teacher talks to the student and explains the offense. The student will re-do the assignment, and will receive a grade reduction up to a "0" (zero) for that assignment.
- The teacher calls home to explain the honor code violation to the parent/guardian. Parents/Guardians are told any future honor code violations will result in more serious consequences.
- The teacher documents the honor code violation on a Fort Bend ISD Disciplinary Action Form and is turned in to the Assistant/Associate Principal who keeps it on file. Teachers check with the assistant principal before phoning the parent/guardian to determine whether there have been prior offenses.
- The student meets with the Academy Coordinator to review the expectations of the Honor Code.

#### **Second Offense:**

- The second offense results in the same penalties as a first offense with an additional penalty of one day of in-school suspension, or academic probation up to dismissal from the GT Academy depending upon the severity of the second offense.

**PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THIS PAGE**

Our signatures acknowledge our understanding of the Academy specific requirements outlined in the Commitment Form, the Academy Honor Code as well as the consequences of non-compliance with these requirements.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Printed Name                      ID#

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian's Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian's Signature

A copy of this commitment form will remain on file with the Academy student's records for the duration of their enrollment in the Academy.