

## Academic Integrity Committee

What is cheating? What is plagiarism? These are two controversial topics. When a student copies his or her peer's homework, is that considered cheating? When a simple sentence is used in a research paper, is this plagiarism? The answers are very clear to some, while others don't have a clue. Either way, cheating and plagiarism have become a growing problem in high schools today. These consistent problems are controllable through awareness and discussion. This is where the Academic Integrity Committee steps in and discusses the boundaries of what is right and what is wrong.

During the 2006-2007 school year, Academic the Integrity Committee was established by the Superintendent, Dr. Dave Gayler. The principals of Charlotte High School, Lemon Bay High School, Port Charlotte High School, and The Academy meet at the Charlotte Technical Center with Dr. Gayler, Dr. Widmeyer, Assistant Superintendent for School Support, and Ms. Prestipino, Director of Student Services. Meetings occur once every three months to discuss the growing concerns of plagiarism and cheating. Ever since, the committee has grown, and students are more aware of the consequences of cheating and plagiarism. One of the major purposes of the committee is for student members to take information regarding academic integrity back to the respective schools and work toward greater student awareness.

Over the last several years the CHS committee has put on skits portraying the down sides of cheating, created poster campaigns against cheating and worked with PGMS on cheating awareness to name a few activities.

The Integrity Committee is committed to showing students the effects of cheating and plagiarism and to develop plans to stop it. The mission is to bring awareness to the four high schools so that cheating can be minimized.

### Members of the Integrity Committee

Alex Kontos- 9th grade

Spencer Tenney- 9th grade

Taylor Mack- 10th grade

Thomas Turney- 10th grade

Kelly Ann Narine- 11th grade

Emily Anderson- 12th grade

Frank DePaul- 9th grade

Celine Taitt- 10th grade

Shane Wumkes- 10th grade

Tyler Cardillo- 11th grade

Nick Goshay- 12 grade

Davion Stuarts – 10<sup>th</sup> grade