

PLAGIARISM NOTICE TO STUDENTS AND PARENTS
World History & Geography REV. 3/15/11

Dear Parent or Guardian:

The first draft of your student's research paper is due _____.
The research paper is the biggest project of the semester in World History class. Following a step-by-step process, your student has been working on the research project since the beginning of the semester.

Now that your student is in high school, he or she must pay close attention to the issue of plagiarism: the use of someone else's work without giving proper credit to the author or creator. Although plagiarism is considered a very serious matter in high school and college, national studies show that many students commit plagiarism accidentally or intentionally.

Because plagiarism will result in a grade of zero for your student's paper, I want you and your child to be fully aware of this issue before it can become a problem. I don't want to unnecessarily frighten your son or daughter, but I do want your student to be careful to avoid plagiarism. Consequently, I am asking you and your student to sign this notice and return it to school. Below is a description of plagiarism that has been provided to your student.

Thanks,

PLAGIARISM: This is very important. When you use words from another person or publication in your writing, you are using a source that must be identified. If you use someone else's ideas that are not general knowledge, the source must be identified. If you use someone else's words or ideas without giving proper credit, you are guilty of plagiarism, which means stealing someone else's work. Using three or more words in a row from another writer may constitute plagiarism. Changing around a few words or sentences will not protect you from plagiarism. Plagiarism is considered scholastic dishonesty, and it is punishable under school district discipline policies. Plagiarism will result in a grade of zero for your paper.

student's name – please print

student's signature

date

parent or guardian's signature

date