

Mission

Providing the vision, leadership and resources for schools, families and communities to develop ethical citizens committed to building a just and caring world.

Need

There has never been a greater need for positive moral development of youth than today.

- Bullying plays a part in 67% of school shootings.
- 30% of high school students admit to stealing.
- Students stay home every day out of fear of getting bullied at school.
- 65% of high school students admit to cheating.
- 50% of high school and 25% of middle school students say drugs are used or sold at their school.

Key Messages

- Character.org is the national leader in the field of character education.
- Character.org does not believe in a “one size fits all” approach to character education.
- Character.org fosters the development of caring and responsible citizens through implementation of the *Eleven Principles of Effective Character Education*.
- Character.org forms partnerships, sets standards, supports research, and helps schools.

Key Statistics

- In 2014, 41 National Schools of Character and 3 National Districts of Character.
- In 2014, 316 Promising Practices recipients were selected from 6 nations and 25 states.
- In 2014, 44 State Schools of Character and 4 State Districts of Character in 15 states.
- A total of 248 National Schools of Character in 28 states, Washington DC, and Puerto Rico
- Schools of Character partners in 33 States.

Sample National School of Character Results

- 95% rate of attendance *Wilson Southern Middle School, West Lawn, PA*
- 60% drop in disciplinary referrals *Northview High School, Florissant, MO*
- 93% graduation rate (an increase from 84.5%) *Lindbergh School District, St. Louis County, MO*
- 96% attendance record *Bower Hill Elementary School, Venetia, FL*
- 91% of students feel safe at school *Eagle Rock School & Prof. Dev. Center, Estes Park, CO*
- 89% of National Schools of Character report declines in suspensions.

Programs

National Schools of Character (NSOC)

The NSOC program is a school improvement process focused on the character development of students. National Schools of Character demonstrate success through improved academics and behavior. Time-tested principles guide both the self-assessment and expert review of schools. Selected NSOC serve as models and mentor others.

State Schools of Character (SSOC)

As a preliminary step in the NSOC process, state level affiliates evaluate schools from their states and select State Schools of Character. State sponsors then forward these schools to Character.org for review. Sponsors also serve as resources to schools as they improve their character programs.

Promising Practices in Character Education

Awarded for successful, unique ways of reinforcing character traits in K-12 students. Each practice meets at least one of the 11 Principles of Effective Character Education.

Professional Development

Character.org professional development focuses on school-wide systemic change. We prepare educators and school leaders to create safe, healthy, high-performing schools, while inspiring students to reach their full potential as students and as people.

For additional information, contact:

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and

Explore the large information and data base on the national website at:
www.character.org