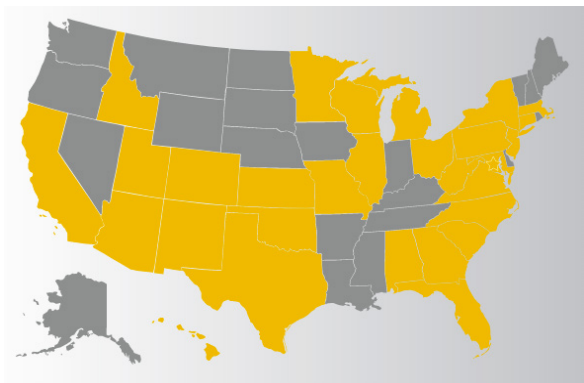


## 2017 Schools of Character



Through a rigorous process, National Schools of Character demonstrate that their character initiatives have had a positive impact on their academics, student behavior, school climate and communities.

For almost 25 years, Character.org has validated good character and provided direction for schools seeking feedback. More than 500 schools around the country have been recognized through this process and become mentors to others.

2017

Students Impacted  
in National Schools  
of Character

79,223

83

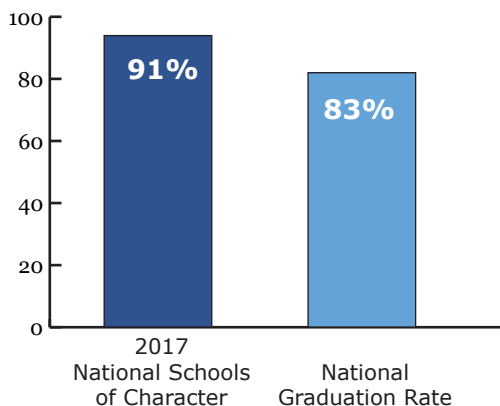
National  
Schools  
of Character

4

National  
Districts  
of Character

Students in All  
Schools  
of Character

313,577



Average Attendance Rate  
**95%**  
Average Dropout Rate  
**<1%**

2017

87% SAW DECLINE  
IN SUSPENSION RATE  
OR ALREADY LOW

32% ARE TITLE I SCHOOLS

2016\*

86% OF SCHOOLS  
WITH MATH SCORES  
ON RISE OR HIGH

85% OF SCHOOLS WITH  
READING SCORES ON  
THE RISE OR HIGH

\* 2017 still being tabulated



### Sheridan School (Washington, DC)

- 226 Students | Grades K – 8
- 25% Free or Reduced Lunch
- 96% Attendance Rate
- Zero Suspensions in Last 5 years

#### Best Practices

- Classroom covenants developed with student involvement
- Students sit at multiage tables, clear their own reusable plates and clean up after themselves
- Service learning activities at every grade level
- Students lead their own parent-teacher conferences beginning in the first grade



### Sumner Elementary (Greensboro, NC)

- 628 Students | Grades K – 5
- 100% Free or Reduced Lunch
- 95% Attendance Rate
- 59% Increase in Reading Proficiency Over 2 Years

#### Best Practices

- The “Rock the Bus” Program includes bus drivers in the character-building process
- “Lunch and Learn” directly connects parents to the curricular and character initiatives
- Partnerships with community groups such as the YMCA



### South Brunswick High School (Monmouth Junction, NJ)

- 2,912 Students | Grades 9 – 12
- 96% Graduation Rate
- 0.3% Dropout Rate
- 90% of Graduates Enter 2 or 4 Year Colleges

#### Best Practices

- Integrating five core values into total school life through “Strive For 5:” respect, honesty, service, kindness, responsibility
- Older students model and teach good character to younger students
- Strong emphasis on academic integrity and conflict resolution
- Shared leadership and continued commitment to character



### Cherry Hill Public Schools (Cherry Hill, NJ)

- State District of Character
- 11,259 Students | Grades Pre-K - 12th
- District’s 6,000+ Families Speak 55+ Native Languages and Include 2,100+ Bilingual Students
- 99% Graduation Rate

#### Best Practices

- “Volley for a Cause” rallies the entire district around a cause for the community to unite to impact through fundraising
- Strong parental involvement spearheaded by the Zone PTA
- The curriculum development team and cultural proficiency/character education committee exemplify strong shared leadership both with academics and character development