

☆ Character.org
2017 National and International
Promising Practices



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INTERNATIONAL

Yew Wah International Education School Changning District China

The Co-Curricular Program

Co-Curricular Classes are classes offered weekly throughout the school to allow students to extend their learning beyond the classroom.

Yew Wah International Education School Shanghai China

Leadership Week

Leadership week is a week of activities, games, challenges, and seminars presented by teachers and guest speakers to facilitate leadership skills in our student body.

Secundaria Bilingual Albert Einstein Navojoa Mexico

"Understanding and Appreciating other Cultures (China)"

Researching about other cultures, students become aware of the importance of respecting and accepting everyone's beliefs communicating to others their findings in a second language (English)

Secundaria Bilingual Albert Einstein Navojoa Mexico

Educating character through sports: FC-Borregos

Students practiced empathy, teamwork and companionship playing soccer with teams with less economic resources, acquiring better football skills and most importantly strengthening friendship bonds.

Secundaria Bilingual Carlos Darwin Irapuato Mexico

Giving you a princess hair

In this practice the students develop empathy, solidarity and caring. Showing a meaningful way to support someone on a cancer journey, to sense their values and make a difference on the community.

Secundaria Bilingual Carlos Darwin Irapuato Mexico

Cyber-Abuelos

In this practice the students develop connections with older adults in their community and value the opportunity to make a difference in older person's life, having benefits for both young and old.

Secundaria Tec de Monterrey Campus Chihuahua Chihuahua Mexico

Big Bend Camping Experience

A group of students go camping to a National Park and develop skills they never thought of developing before.

Secundaria Tec de Monterrey Campus Laguna Torreon Mexico

Thanksgiving Eatwell Plate

The students prepare 3 eat-well plates for thanksgiving week and give them away to homeless or low income people to show their gratitude about their blessings.

Secundaria Tecnologico de Monterrey Campus Zacatecas Guadalupe, Mexico

"Navidad Secutec, Sharing with Our Community"

A practice in which our students went out to the community during Christmas nseason to share good wishes, fun, and quality time reminding everyone around we belong to a strong and giving community.

Thomas Alva Edison Hermosillo Mexico

Practicing Values in the World we live in.

Students wanted to help their community and reduce plastic wastes.



ORGANIZATIONS

Blue Valley Southwest High School Overland Park, KS
Hoops for Hope USA

Hoops for Hope USA links six Kansas City area high schools in a student led event where young adults put Halloween on the basketball court, while raising money for patient bills at Children's Mercy!

Skills for L.I.F.E. Foundation Lawton, OK
SUPER Skills (Hard + Soft Skills)

Tomorrow's workforce is in today's classroom and it is imperative students graduate high school with skills, knowledge, and experience, prepared for college, careers, and L.I.F.E.

West Milford Tennis/Tennis For Life West Milford, NJ
Tennis for Life

Tennis for Life is a growing support group for women currently battling and have survived the battle with Breast Cancer, that offers free tennis lessons, as well as a support/discussion/help group.

West Milford Special Olympics West Milford, NJ
West Milford Special Olympics

West Milford Special Olympics includes students and alumni from age 3 to 29, with and without intellectual disabilities, supporting and creating a year-round unified sports arena for all athletes.

West Milford Field Hockey Program West Milford, NJ
West Milford Field Hockey Program: Building Citizens with Character

The WM FH program continues to get involved within the school and town community, as well develop their team's culture and climate. The HS and youth teams understand the importance of building a team.

Macopin Mediators (West Milford High School) West Milford, NJ
Macopin Mediators

The Macopin Mediators is a group of 30 students that are viewed as the leaders and student ambassadors of our school based on their leadership skills and moral character.

West Milford Township High School West Milford, NJ
Gymnastics

The Passaic County Gymnastics Championships and Togetherness Tournament

The West Milford High School Gymnastics Team and coaches host and organize the Passaic County Gymnastics tournament, uniting every team and the judges in a common theme and donating to a charity.

Winning Futures Organization Warren, MI
Winning Futures

We provide school-based mentoring programs and for middle and high school students focused on life skills of character value development, goal setting, career and strategic planning.



DISTRICTS

Elmsford Union Free School District

Elmsford, NY

"Scare Away Hunger in the EUFSD"

The Elmsford UFSD worked together to "Scare Away Hunger" in the Village of Elmsford by collecting enough canned goods fill the Village Food Pantry.

Kewaskum School District

Kewaskum, WI

Pins & Magnets

Students in grades four and five at all three elementary schools work with their art teachers to create original ceramic art work pieces that are sold, with profits supporting our area food pantry.

Lake Zurich CUSD95 District

Lake Zurich, IL

Lake Zurich High School Greenhouse

Special Education students run the LZHS greenhouse with direction from volunteers and staff, integrating

Montville Township School District

Montville, NJ

OneMontville

OneMontville is a community-based organization created to promote a climate of acceptance, inclusion and kindness which teaches and celebrates respect for one another by embracing diversity.

Old Bridge Township Public Schools

Matawan, NJ

Kids at College

Students learn about setting high expectations and discover performance values needed to succeed as they engage in a program where they experience being a real college student for a day.

The Parkway School District

St. Louis, MO

Principal Interview Questions: District Panel

Our staff interviews include questions about the applicant's commitment to character ed. For principals we also ask how they will cultivate a positive school climate and their commitment to ALL kids

The Parkway School District

St. Louis, MO

Superintendent's Social Justice Advisory Council

SSJLAC is a district wide club where students from our high schools meet to discuss social justice issues, current events, and provide a venue for serving, learning from, and educating their community

Sperrong Middle School

St. Louis, MO

What Goes Around Comes Around Online Initiative

All students in the school were given armbands the read, "what goes around comes around" to serve as a reminder to keep things positive when they are using a device.

USD 268 Cheney

Cheney, KS

Cardinal Porch Visits

In order to foster relationships, we are going to implement "Porch Visits" for students transitioning to a new building or who are new to the district along with identified At-Risk students.



West Milford School District

West Milford, NJ

Annual Digital Literacy and Citizenship Night

Our Annual Digital Literacy and Citizenship Night aims to engage families as partners, creating safe digital environments, educating families on digital footprints, and promoting healthy citizenship.

SCHOOLS

Arizona

Imagine Bell Canyon

Phoenix, AZ

Time Travel Night

Time Travel night is an event designed to inspire students to see all the possible career and college opportunities in their future so that they will understand the purpose of their education today.

Imagine Bell Canyon

Phoenix, AZ

Perseverance Field Day

Perseverance Field Day engages students in physical team challenges in order to help them develop strategies for persevering in the classroom and in life

Imagine Camelback

Phoenix, AZ

Character Buddy Program

The character buddy program helps the older students mentor the younger grade level students, and also gives them the opportunity to serve as role models , and buddies to they little friends.

Imagine East Mesa

Mesa, AZ

Celebrate Success Saturday

Celebrate Success Saturday is an initiative driven by the 4th Grade Teachers at IEM to surprise students who have made achievements in a specific area at their homes over the weekend.

Imagine East Mesa

Mesa, AZ

Respect School Property

"Respect School Property" (RSP) began as a student-led group and is now a whole-school effort where each day one class is assigned to a duty designed to improve the school climate.

California

Covina, CA

Sierra Vista Middle School

Walk a Mile in My Shoes

Empathy is the focus while students investigate the impact of shoes on people, society + the environment while planning a school wide program to collect ONE MILE of shoes to donate and raise money.

Sierra Vista Middle School

Covina, CA

Making a Difference in our World: Solving World Problems

Utilizing the Next Generation Science Standards, students are asked to design solutions to a need they see in the world.



District of Columbia

Hope Community PCS- Tolson

Washington, DC

Team and Family Morning Meetings

Scholars and teachers in grades PreK-8th grade conduct Team & Family Morning Meetings to start each day off positively, establish a culture of respect, and empathy, while exemplifying Shared Values.

Hope-Lamond Public Charter School

Washington, DC

Cafeteria Champs

Cafeteria Champs educates the scholars on the importance of teamwork, working together as a class community to reach a common goal.

Florida

Apollo Beach Elementary

Apollo Beach, FL

Interactive Character Education

Through the use of an interactive school wide activities, students are finding ways to teach others about character education & how to develop stronger character traits of their own.

Imagine Charter School at North Lauderdale

North Lauderdale, FL

The Man Club

The Man Club program provides additional supports to our male students who are in need of guidance to manage themselves and their challenges in school and at home.

Imagine Charter School at Plantation

Plantation, FL

Founded in Empathy, Rooted in Action; Imagine Plantation Middle School Service Learning Club

"Founded in Empathy, Rooted in Action" is a student inspired and led Kindergarten program that offers middle school students the opportunity to mentor and academically support Kindergartners.

Imagine Charter School at Plantation

Plantation, FL

"Positively Inspired"

Projects like Character Walk, Hall of Quotes, and Gratitude Chain emulate our commitment to character and its importance. Academics offers success in a career while character offers success in life.

Imagine Charter School at Weston

Weston, FL

ACE Club

The ACE (Attitude, Character, and Education) Club is a student-led organization in which older students prepare & teach lessons based on the Six Pillars of Character Education to our primary students.

Imagine Charter School of Weston

Weston, FL

Presidential Letters

The ELA Presidential Letter writing activity is a lesson where students research and address global issues that are important to them.



Imagine Kissimmee Charter Academy Kissimmee, FL
Imagine Kissimmee Charter Academy's RISE (Respect, Integrity, Safety and Excellence) Behavior Matrix

Imagine Kissimmee Charter Academy assembled a taskforce to create the Respect, Integrity, Safety and Excellence (RISE) matrix as the expectation for student behavior in the major areas of the campus.

Imagine Nau Charter School Port Saint Lucie, FL
Character Recognition and Education

Imagine Nau is developing character traits with it's students through example, action, modeling, and the integration into their daily activities.

Imagine Plantation South Campus Plantation, FL
Reflections on Bullying: Imagine Plantation

Reflections on Bullying is a student led school wide program that offers middle school students the opportunity to educate and empower students to recognize, prevent, and overcome bullying.

Imagine School at North Port Elementary North Port, FL
SHARK Reflections

At ISNP's Elementary Campus, every grade level learns about self-regulation and self-reflection and implements strategies daily to promote student development of intrinsic motivation and core values.

Imagine School at Town Center Palm Coast, FL
Jackson's Journey~Pay it Forward.

Our practice "Pay It Forward" was established for an Imagine School at Town Center first grade student who was diagnosed with cancer in the summer of 2016.

Imagine School Town Center Palm Coast, FL
True Colors

The second grade at Imagine is increasing awareness and empathy for individuals with disabilities while at the same time learning that determination and grit can often conquer all odds.

Imagine Schools at South Lake Clermont, FL
Warrior Clans

Warrior Clans foster student motivation through shared leadership of tasks, peer to peer character discussions, and building a community among our eighth grade students.

Imagine Schools at South Lake Clermont, FL
Sunshine Communication

Sunshine Communication is a way for our teachers and staff to reach out to parents with positive communication for their students.

Imagine Schools at South Vero Vero Beach, FL
Middle School Mentors

Middle School Mentors are campus leaders that find areas around our school to support younger students and make an overall impact.

Imagine Schools at South Vero Vero Beach, FL
Manatee Data Day

Connection to Curriculum, Student Development & Growth, Measurement & Assessment



Imagine Schools at West Melbourne West Melbourne, FL
Conflict Resolution through Proactive Citizenship Education
Students at Imagine West Melbourne learn to improve their community with a proactive citizenship education.

Imagine Schools at West Melbourne West Melbourne, FL
Imagine Delegates Lead Character Movement
Imagine Schools at West Melbourne student delegates lead a character movement to live out the school's core values and culture with fidelity.

Imagine Schools Chancellor Campus Boynton Beach, FL
Purple the Globe
Purple the Globe is a service learning project in which the 5th grade gifted and MS Leadership students collaborate to plan and execute a school wide fundraising initiative for Pennies in Action.

Orlando Science Elementary School Orlando, FL
Student Ambassador Program
The OSES Student Ambassador Program empowers students by providing them with the opportunity to develop leadership, human relation, and communication skills.

Orlando Science Elementary School Orlando, FL
Core Values Day
Core Values Day is a half day fun event created with the only purpose of promoting our core values and school spirit among our school community.

Tropical Elementary Merritt Island, FL
ABC's for Peace
TK and 6th grade partnered to write an electronic ABC for Peace book which was shared throughout the school as well as printed and added to learning bags TK makes for PreK

Georgia

Liberty Elementary School Canton, GA
Welcome to Liberty Character Walk
Student leaders give PRIDE Welcome Bags and Be Kind shirts to new students then, along with their families, go on a Character Walk to meet staff and learn how Liberty Lions promote good character.

Liberty Elementary School Canton, GA
Serving Homeless Families at Nicholas House
Third grade students collected needed items for the Nicholas House, a homeless shelter that serves entire families.

Rocky Branch Elementary Bogart, GA
Bags to Buddy Bench
We are collecting plastic film to be recycled and turned into a "buddy bench" for the playground.



Illinois

Alton Middle School **Alton, IL**
Intervention Classroom for Education (ICE) Restorative Classroom

The Intervention Classroom for Education (ICE) provides restorative, intervention on campus and, therefore, an alternative to traditional punitive actions that remove students from school/education.

Freeburg Elementary School **Freeburg, IL**
Veteran's Day Luncheon

Our 8th graders invite a veteran to attend our annual Veteran's Day luncheon interviewing and introducing the veteran to those in attendance.

Kansas

Abilene Elementary **Valley Center, KS**
TEAM Abilene

Abilene Elementary believes in demonstrating Teamwork, Effort, Achievement and Motivating others to do the same.

Blue Valley Southwest High School **Overland Park, KS**
Peer Tutoring

The program pairs General Education Students with Special Education Students so the special education student can participate in school activities and in regular classes without adult support.

Clay Center Community Middle School **Clay Center, KS**
Positive Addictions

Positive Addictions day seeks to interest students in lifelong healthy practices through engaging them in training for a 5k race, exposing them to different healthy habits and involving the community.

Faris Elementary **Hutchinson, KS**
T.E.A.M. Rooms

Each month, T.E.A.M. room partners from different grade levels get together to complete an activity or lesson that involves character.

Mulvane Grade School **Mulvane, KS**
School Communities - Families

Our teachers asked: What if we brought the concept of a 'true family' into school? And with it, taught students to collaborate, communicate, think critically, and problem-solve together?

Nemaha Central Elementary & Middle School **Seneca, KS**
Make a Difference

Students and staff select projects that allow them to "Make a Difference" by participating in service projects, helping those in need, and recognizing others in the community for their service.

Ravenwood Elementary School **Olathe, KS**
Spreading TIGER LOVE with Operation Kindness Tiger

Students at Ravenwood practice "Tiger Love" daily after completing "Operation Kindness Tiger" to learn more about the positive character trait kindness and sharing with our school and community.



Ravenwood Elementary School
Ravenwood's Tiger Service Club

Olathe, KS

Tiger Service Club is a volunteer group of 5th grade students who want to make a difference in our school and community through activities that promote positive character development.

SEKESC (Southeast KS East Central KS Academy)

Garnett, KS

SEKESC's East Central Kansas Academy's RISE Program

RISE (Respect, Integrity, Safety and Excellence) and its attributes utilize Kansas Social Emotional and Character Development standards by incorporating them into an experiential based curriculum.

Truesdell Middle School

Wichita, KS

Individualized Learning Plans (ILP's) at Truesdell Middle School

ALL students at Truesdell Middle School will be drafted by a staff member who will be their advocate, their champion, will understand the power of connection and will never give up on them. (Pierson).

Valley Center Intermediate School
Brew Crew

Valley Center, KS

"Brew Crew" is a life skills program that focuses on equipping students with the essential skills necessary to be successful in life, all while running a profitable business at the school.

Maryland

Imagine Andrews Public Charter School
Shared Values Message Board

Andrews Air Force Base, MD

A shared values message board was established for the students to use a social media format to acknowledge the displays of the Imagine shared values by all stakeholders.

Imagine Foundations at Leeland Public Charter School

Upper Marlboro, MD

Values in Action

Values in Action is the practice of engaging scholars in interactive character development through monthly school-wide activities, assemblies, and team building tasks.

Imagine Foundations at Morningside Public Charter School

Suitland, MD

Family Engagement Plan

The Family Engagement Plan strives to build a collaborative school-family partnership intended to foster strong relationships between families and school staff.

Norwood STEM Program
Learning Center

Dundalk, MD

We are a Learning Center that opens our doors to other educators in and beyond our local community to share our expertise in Restorative Practices, Character Education, and various academic areas.

Norwood STEM Program

Dundalk, MD

Problem Solving Factories- Assemblies to practice problem solving

Students engage in problem solving and character building assemblies in order to strengthen character and problem solving ability.



Pine Grove Middle School

Baltimore, MD

Character Education Lessons--Ten Minute Tuesday

Every Tuesday morning, homeroom teachers teach a lesson centered around a specific quality of character.

Red Pump Elementary School

Bel Air, MD

Community Service - Service-Learning

Students in the fifth grade led a school-wide effort, both internally and externally, to create a chain of kindness in the community by coordinating a Spread the Kindness Campaign to reduce bullying.

Michigan

Birmingham Covington School

Bloomfield Hills, MI

Tower Garden in the Classroom

Through a partnership with the Tower Garden company, in authentic, interdisciplinary, project-based learning, 108 third and fourth grade students maintained a working indoor hydroponic garden.

Quarton Elementary School

Birmingham, MI

Kindness Countdown Challenge

Students and staff participated in a month long "Kindness Countdown Challenge" performing, learning, and discussing random acts of kindness ending with developing a personal Kindness Goal for 2017.

Wylie E. Groves

Beverly Hills, MI

Make A Difference Day

Make A Difference Day is a student lead service learning project between the Groves community and the City of Detroit.

Minnesota

Duluth, MN

Duluth Edison Charter Schools

Community Service Class

DECS Community Service class and elective are opportunities for our older students to contribute to our community by participating on a regular basis as a classroom, office, or technology assistants.

Missouri

Antonia Elementary

Imperial, MO

Commend-A-Bull Character

Commend-A-Bull Character is a student recognition program that promotes and helps define our core ethical values in the school and community.

Antonia Middle School

Barnhart, MO

Serving our Servicemen

Students from our various school groups came together to plan and execute a day celebrating our community's veterans, with music, student made videos, lunch, and a school wide assembly.



Antonia Middle School
Cooking with the Bulls

Barnhart, MO

Cooking with the Bulls is a cooking program that encompasses reading, math, and social skills to teacher students with special needs to be more independent.

Belton High School
Art for Others

Belton, MO

Students collected canned goods to create canned good art sculptures to benefit the school pantry.

Bernard Middle School
100 Blankets for Homeless Dogs

St. Louis, MO

Students made 100 winter blankets for homeless dogs living in a shelter.

Bernard Middle School
Welcome New Students

St. Louis, MO

Character Coalition students welcome new students to Bernard Middle School.

Bowles Elementary
Bowles loves Ronald McDonald House

Fenton, MO

In an effort to pull students, families & our community together with service learning, the Bowles community made a decision to partner with and support the Ronald McDonald House of St. Louis.

Brown Elementary
Men on a Mission

Florissant, MO

Men on a Mission recruits volunteer men in our community to visit Brown Elementary to serve in a variety of ways, including being mentors, tutors, supervisors and coaches.

Brown Elementary
Restorative Practices Conversation Corners

Florissant, MO

At Brown Elementary, we developed comfortable, conversation corners to encourage staff and students to use them when implementing restorative practices.

Center for Creative Learning
The Center for Creative Learning Family Declaration

Ellisville, MO

The Center for Creative Learning (CCL) Family Declaration guides our community in developing and practicing our core values so that they become habitual patterns of behavior.

Chesterfield
Ignite the Hero Within

Chesterfield, MO

Chesterfield Students were honoring the "Silent Heroes" by partnering up with various charities, learning more about how they operate and collecting items for those in need.

Craig Elementary School
Moonlight's Meals

St. Louis, MO

Moonlight's Meals provides families with free food assistance through our school ran Craig Community Food Pantry.



Crestview Middle School
International Celebrations

Ellisville, MO

Crestview Middle School celebrates the diversity of the students by hosting an international week planned by teachers and students for students, parents, and community members.

Crestview Middle School
School-Wide Service Projects

Ellisville, MO

100% of Crestview Middle School students and staff designed and participated in various service projects.

Discovery Ridge Elementary
Random Acts of Kindness School-Wide Challenge

O'Fallon, MO

Students K-5 challenged themselves to increase the practice of Random Acts of Kindness in the school and greater community.

Discovery Ridge Elementary
Discovery Days

O'Fallon, MO

Discovery Days is a STEM event that brings our staff, students, families and community members together for a week of meaningful and challenging learning.

Don Earl Early Childhood Center
Dream Day

Arnold, MO

This early childhood service learning project allowed our students to collect money to donate to The Dream Factory, while learning about Martin Luther King, Jr.

Eureka Elementary
Interest Families Through Learning, Leading, and Loving

Eureka, MO

Interest Families build unity and strong relationships among staff and students at Eureka Elementary in support of our school's core values of Learn, Lead, Love.

Farmington Middle School
Intensive Character Education (ICE)

Farmington, MO

Intensive Character Education (ICE) is an intentional approach to teaching our school/community values to high need students.

Francis Howell Middle School
Musical Mentors

St. Charles, MO

Musical Mentors is where younger students seek opportunities to improve their playing/learning on a musical instrument and a venue for older students to develop leadership skills.

George Guffey Elementary
Let's Put Our HANDS Together! Helping Appreciate Notable District Staff

Fenton, MO

The Let's Put Our HANDS Together (Helping Appreciate Notable District Staff) service learning project allowed students to show appreciation to district staff members who provide support every day.

Gladden Elementary
Staff Families

Belton, MO

All certified and non-certified staff are placed in vertical groups to create an atmosphere for relationship building among staff members.



Highcroft Ridge Elementary **Chesterfield, MO**
Highcroft Helping the Environment
Student family groups met on multiple occasions to discuss & research how they wanted to make our world a better place, submitting their ideas for a school vote, which was to help our environment.

Hillcrest STEAM Academy **Belton, MO**
Morning Video Announcements
At Hillcrest STEAM Academy students lead morning video announcements which include: character initiatives, up coming school events, birthdays, lunch menu and other announcements.

Jefferson City Academic Center **Jefferson City, MO**
JCAC Serves Hope
JCAC students volunteer throughout the school year at our local food bank.

Kellison Elementary School **Fenton, MO**
Adventure Guide Lunches
Each semester, every student has a lunch session with administration and a group of their peers to discuss our school, community, and culture, in addition to sharing ideas for future planning.

Kellison Elementary School **Fenton, MO**
Kellison's "Only One You" Rock Garden
Kellison's Rock Garden celebrates differences and there is "Only One You."

Kennard **St. Louis, MO**
Birthday Book
When we celebrate birthdays in our class, each student receives a "birthday book" created using written entries and illustrations from fellow classmates.

Kennard Classical Junior Academy **St. Louis, MO**
PJs for Police
Kennard's caring community wear pajamas or blue to support their local chapter of BackStoppers.

Kentucky Trail Elementary **Belton, MO**
School Celebrations
Once a month the whole school meets in the gym to introduce new student arrivals, watch and participate Shubert skits, celebrate grade level achievements, and practice breathing strategies.

Ladue Early Childhood Center **Creve Coeur, MO**
Earth Saving Superheroes
After learning about the current needs of our environment, students participated in a variety of school activities that demonstrate how they can help the earth and be Earth Saving Superheroes.

Ladue Early Childhood Center **Creve Coeur, MO**
Music and Character Ed
Students, ages 2-5, have the opportunity to sing character education songs and discuss the monthly trait as a group at music class.



Ladue Horton Watkins High School
Peace Wall

St. Louis, MO

The Ladue High School "Peace Wall" harnessed curricular concepts in art for the real world application of social justice and positive moral change.

Ladue Horton Watkins High School

St. Louis, MO

The Big Brothers and Sisters helping Little Brothers and Sisters Initiative

Spanish II students spread the excitement of learning a new language with elementary students and find themselves invigorated by the joy of sharing what they have learned with the next generation.

Ladue Middle School

St. Louis, MO

Listening Circles For Equity and Civility

Listening Circles For Equity and Civility provide positive opportunities for students to talk about topics that divide our community and nation, including race and the way we interact with each other.

Ladue Middle School

St. Louis, MO

"I am LMS" Day

"I am LMS" Day is devoted to celebrating unique differences at Ladue Middle School with student led activities, thematic lessons, dialogue and cultural experiences led by community groups & students.

Lafayette High School

Wildwood, MO

Lancer Restorative Center

The Lancer Restorative Center is an alternative classroom/setting for students frequently missing school and/or having academic/social/emotional issues that require additional support.

Lewis and Clark Middle School

Jefferson City, MO

Whiteboard Graffiti

Students participate in a daily warm-up, answering a prompt on a whiteboard with dry-erase markers to focus on character development, creativity, and community building.

Lewis and Clark Middle School

Jefferson City, MO

Kindness Is Simple

The Kindness is Simple campaign is a promising practice that encourages students to show kindness to other students and adults on a daily basis through simple, thoughtful, and caring actions.

Lindbergh Early Childhood

St. Louis, MO

Family 5

The Family 5 is a monthly communication tool, created by the 2-3 year old teachers, that encourages families to actively engage in their child's development, strengthening a home school connection.

Long Elementary School

Crestwood, MO

We Walk for Kindness

Long Elementary students and staff filled the streets with love as they paraded through the community promoting kindness and acceptance for all.

Margaret Buerkle Middle School

St. Louis, MO

Breaks My Heart

Students learn about social issues of their choice, present their findings to the class, and call them to action.



Mason Ridge Elementary School
Mason Ridge Ambassadors

Town and Country, MO

Students visit our neighboring senior living center one time each week to build relationships with the residents that live there.

Mehlville High School
Cleaning Cliff Cave

St. Louis, MO

Students in MHS' AP Human Geography have been working to scrub graffiti off of the walls of Cliff Cave, a significant natural feature within the community which is heavily vandalized.

Mehlville High School
Breaking the Stigma

St. Louis, MO

Students created PSAs to bring awareness to the stigmas surrounding mental illness.

Northview High School
The Kindness Food Pantry

Florissant, MO

The food pantry at Northview is a student-led project that provides students and families in need with food and personal care items.

Northwest High School
Planting Character: Botany in Action

Cedar Hill, MO

Over the course of 5 years, the development of the Botany course has led to hands-on engagement of students as they plan, plant, and literally dig in the dirt to leave their own legacy.

Northwest High School
Coloring the Community through Art Outreach

Cedar Hill, MO

Art students and teachers engage the school district and community in art experiences beyond the classroom; the school has become the art network within the community with outreaching service projects

Parkway Central Middle School
I Stand For

Chesterfield, MO

This lesson was a part of our year-long theme of what students and staff stand for in today's changing society.

Parkway Early Childhood
Parker's Peaceful Moments

Ballwin, MO

Parker's Peaceful Moments is a home and school based focus on building connections through activities that build awareness to self, others and the environment.

Parkway Northeast Middle School
Challenge Science For ALL

Creve Coeur, MO

One way in which we merge academics and character is by offering Challenge Science For ALL, where any student who has an interest and the Viking Value of grit can tackle this rigorous academic option.

Parkway Northeast Middle School
The Legacy Board

Creve Coeur, MO

For three years, we have watched students find voice and purpose through our character education



embedded curriculum as they discovered what their personal legacies would be in our school and the world.

Parkway South High School

Manchester, MO

SouthTalks

SouthTalks fosters a network of relationships among our student body, staff and community leaders in order to seek a deeper understanding of the views, values and cultures of a diverse world.

Parkway West High School

Ballwin, MO

Empowering Young Women Through Leadership & Positivity

This group was created to build the self-esteem of H.S. women by promoting awareness, resiliency & empowerment through a community of caring, support & encouragement in the group & school community.

Parkway West Middle School

Chesterfield, MO

African American Scholars' Academy

The African American Scholars' Academy creates a collaborative community of learners who support and challenge one another to increase academic achievement and principles of character and leadership.

Pond Elementary School

Wildwood, MO

Panthers on the Prowl

"Panthers on the Prowl" is a school wide initiative that uses service learning activities to connect students and staff with the greater community in a way that is mutually beneficial.

Rockwood Early Childhood

Chesterfield, MO

Fun Walk/RUn

The annual Fun Walk/Run is a fundraising and community building event for local community agencies. Students, parents and community members join together to raise money for the chosen organization.

Southwest Early Childhood Center

Jefferson City, MO

The Amazing Race

Innovative staff development to allow for genuine connections among staff where they race to answer questions correctly, complete team building activities, are active participants in their learning

Southwest Early Childhood Center

Jefferson City, MO

You Were Gone and You Were Missed

When a staff member is absent from school the principal writes a handwritten note saying "you were gone and you were missed," and adds a personal note and welcome back.

Sperrong Middle School

St. Louis, MO

Bringing People Through Interest Groups

During one advisory period a week, students and staff group together by interest and spend time together doing that activity.

Stanton Elementary

Fenton, MO



Let Me Inspire You

Parents and grandparents support our PTO program by purchasing cards to write inspiring notes to students.

Stix Early Childhood Center Bear Families

St. Louis, MO

Staff and students meet once a month in their Bear Family, consisting of 8 mixed age group members, to enhance and develop their overall character education and to establish cross-grade relationships.

Truman Middle School Flight Crew Student-Led Lessons

St. Louis, MO

Flight Crew student leaders plan lessons and create engaging activities for their peers to reinforce core values, teach high-interest adolescent topics, and provide opportunities for team building.

Valley Park Elementary Kids with C.L.A.S.S.

Valley Park, MO

Kids with C.L.A.S.S. (character, leadership, & super service) demonstrate character, leadership & service by assisting teachers, students and community members through service learning projects.

Valley Park Elementary School Packs for Pals

Valley Park, MO

Providing backpacks of food to students in need and engaging all students in the donation process, which shows them all that they are a part of a caring community.

Wild Horse Elementary School English Language Classes for Adult Family Members

Chesterfield, MO

In order for all of our families to feel part of the school community, we offer classes in our school building during the school day to help teach English to the family members of our students.

Wild Horse Elementary School Building Bridges

Chesterfield, MO

Building Bridges is a monthly gathering of English Speakers of Other Language (ESOL) families, staff, and volunteers to build relationships, increase parent involvement, and enhance academic skills.

Wildwood Middle School Athletes in Action

Wildwood, MO

Athletes in Action partners high need students with disabilities with groups of non-disabled peers to work together in athletics and to promote/develop caring social interaction.

Windsor High School OWLS Academy - Outstanding Ways of Learning to Succeed - Transition Program for Incoming Freshmen

Imperial, MO

OWLS ACADEMY is a two week transitional program which helps prepare incoming freshmen for the academics of high school while infusing character education in the curriculum.

Woerner Elementary

Saint Louis, MO



Woerner Peer Mediators

Fourth and fifth grade students at Woerner help solve problems through peer mediation and leadership.

Woerther Elementary School

Ballwin, MO

Student Motivation Through Helping Others

Woerther students connect learning and helping others in need through positive behavior and choices, further motivating others to do the same.

Woerther Elementary School

Ballwin, MO

Love and Care for Our Law Enforcement Officers

Woerther students and staff appreciate local Ballwin Police Department and Woerther community law enforcement officers for their service with care bags.

Wren Hollow Elementary

Ballwin, MO

Counseling Cadets

The Counseling Cadets is a student leadership role consisting of 4th and 5th grade students who administer and lead many leadership and character-building opportunities with the student body.

North Carolina

Allen Middle School

Greensboro, NC

Viking Connect Time

During Viking Connect Time teachers conduct character development and Dynamics For Success lessons, discuss career and academic goals and increase literacy.

Beverly Woods Elementary School

Charlotte, NC

Sterling Snack Bag Project

Beverly Woods Elementary students, staff, and parents worked collaboratively to foster a caring character environment and assembled snack bags for less fortunate students at a neighboring school.

Brooks Global Studies

Greensboro, NC

Global Villages

Multi-grade level students participate in Global Villages where they learn about a subject of common interest for two hours on six school year half days.

Erwin Montessori Elementary

Greensboro, NC

The Shine Project

The Shine Project will engage students in an exploration of their unique talents, and abilities through the study of literature, African and Native American stories, art, music and family heritage.

Ferndale Middle School

High Point, NC

Creating "Pastabilities" for Local Families

"Pastabilities" provided a hands-on and engaging service learning experience for all students that promotes character development, moral action, and cross-curricular learning.

Grimsley High School

Greensboro, NC



Book Desert Depositories and Repositories

Students create book depositories and repositories for elementary schools through research-based Service-Learning action plans in a Book Desert project to increase literacy and help the community.

Guilford Elementary School Cheetah Show

Greensboro, NC

The Cheetah Show at Guilford Elementary School is a student-led program that disseminates information to students and staff and teaches character education through student-created presentations.

Hampton Elementary University Partnership Magnet School Motivating Minds for Success

Greensboro, NC

Motivating Minds for Success is a monthly character development and mentoring program targeted to 4th and 5th grade boys and girls at Hampton Elementary School.

James Benson Dudley High School Layup for Lupus

Greensboro, NC

Dudley High School presents an annual Layup for Lupus Basketball Tournament that supports Beautiful Butterflies which is a local organization that supports lupus.

James Benson Dudley High School Boards, Bags and Bed Rolls - Homelessness Project

Greensboro, NC

Dudley High School in conjunction with Greensboro Recycling will crochet bed mats for the homeless with recycled grocery bags.

Jesse Wharton Elementary Show your Jesse Wharton Giraffe SPOTS!

Greensboro, NC

Our school has developed a SPOTS program to promote positive behavior and teach character traits each day.

Kiser Middle School Foster Care Friends

Greensboro, NC

Foster Care Friends is a year long initiative to help our students become aware of how they can support the needs of local foster care children and their families.

Madison Elementary School Lady Mustangs of Madison Elementary School

McLeansville, NC

The Lady Mustangs Leadership Program is an A-A female mentor program for students in grades 4th -5th that promotes healthier lifestyle choices through educational sessions and free fitness classes.

Murphey Traditional Academy ACES Operation Coupon Clip

Greensboro, NC

Operation Coupon Clip is an interactive service-learning experience where Murphey ACES students assist in eliminating food insecurity issues for it's community by researching cost effective coupons.

Nathanael Greene Elementary Reading in Character

Liberty, NC

Students selected a literary piece demonstrating core character; Responsibility, Respect, Kindness, Courage, Integrity, Self-Discipline or Perseverance to present at a school wide reading focus event.



Northwest Middle School
Light up the Night

Greensboro, NC

Students kick off the holiday season by helping the town of Oak Ridge Light up the Night with thousands of luminaries, tons of food donations, and an evening of multicultural celebration.

Penn Griffin School for the Arts
Bully March

High Point, NC

Our Bully March, a school-wide service learning project, was a series of activities meant to bring awareness of the effects of bullying as well as to create an action plan for a bully free environment

Sedalia Elementary
Secret Service

Sedalia, NC

Students are introduced to the idea of Random Acts of Kindness then are challenged to commit five kind deeds in their community to become official agents of the Secret Service.

Southeast Guilford High School
Emily's Kids

Greensboro, NC

Southeast High School students work together to bake, decorate, and sell cupcakes for the 9th annual FCCLA Emily's Kids fundraiser, while classes and clubs promote awareness of childhood cancer.

Sumner Elementary School
Boys on the Move

Greensboro, NC

Boys On The Move is a daily, PE themed positive group activity that works with boys with behavioral issues to strengthen character and improve self-control and problem-solving skills.

Weddinton Hills Elementary
Empathy Partners

Concord, NC

Empathy Partners involves a personal and academic partnership between the 4th and 5th grade Academically/Intellectually Gifted students and the Autistic students at Weddington Hills Elementary.

Welborn Academy
The Distinctive DIVAS

Highpoint, NC

The purpose of The Distinctive DIVAS is to give young ladies an opportunity at real life experiences, such as making items to give to those that are less fortunate, especially the homeless.

New Jersey

A. Russell Knight Elementary School
The Great Kindness Challenge

Cherry Hill, NJ

A Russell Knight School participated in The Great Kindness Challenge from January 23-30 at which time our students were encouraged to complete acts of kindness using a 50 item checklist as a guide.

Alan B. Shepard
Shark News12

Old Bridge, NJ

Shark News 12 is an innovative program whereby ESL students create news stories for a school-wide broadcast.



Alfred E. Zampella School
M.O.S.A.I.C: Inspiring Character

Jersey City, NJ

A curriculum that builds student's social emotional skills and virtues to promote a respectful and caring school that reaches out to the community making it a more positive place for everyone. nnnnnn

Anthony Wayne Middle School
180 Days of AWesome Character Education Program

Wayne, NJ

We have a customized character ed program designed to allow all students and staff to feel connected to the overall school community.

Apshawa School
Holiday Pick a Gift Program

West Milford, NJ

The Holiday Pick a Gift Program helps families in need within our school community during the holidays.

Apshawa School
Mindfulness

West Milford, NJ

Mindfulness in the classroom promotes a self-monitoring of student wellbeing and allows students to foster their own positive attitudes, behaviors, and feelings; mindfulness promotes self-checking.

Bell Oaks School
Boys to Men/Just Us Girls Mentoring

Bellmawr, NJ

Our mentoring program offers our at-risk students with an adult mentor, of the same gender, to explore how we grow: mentally, emotionally, and socially.

Bell Oaks School
Administrative Reflection

Bellmawr, NJ

This year, Bell Oaks has changed its administrative detention practice to a growth-centered administrative reflection.

Berlin Community School
Character Corner

Berlin, NJ

The Character Corner creates a caring community in which students use Positive Word Cards to communicate with peers to resolve conflicts & recognize positive character traits in themselves and others.

Broad Street School
Broad Street School's School Garden

Bridgeton, NJ

The garden will give students the opportunity to learn where their food comes from, how it grows, and that a healthy diet starts with fresh fruits and vegetables. Teachers can use the garden and crea

Camden County Technical School, Gloucester
Township Campus
We Are The World Cultural Dance

Sicklerville, NJ

We Are The World Cultural Dance creates a caring culture while fusing dance movement to celebrate, express emotion, socialize, and challenge physical and cognitive abilities to promote change.



Camden County Technical Schools' Pennsauken Pennsauken, NJ
Campus

CACCI--Character, Attendance, Climate Change Initiative

CACCI--Character, Attendance, Climate Change Initiative. Monthly character traits initiative reinforces good character traits. The focus is on a unique trait each month with engaging strategies.

Campbell Elementary School Metuchen, NJ
Identity Day

Identity Day is a whole school program that addresses student interest, the inquiry process, social-emotional learning, 21st century college and career readiness skills, and enrichment.

Cedar Hill Towaco, NJ
Tools for Schools Kids Environmental Committee

The children are the caretakers of our Earth, so we teach and empower them to do so through an environmental committee, driven by students, entitled Tools for Schools Kids Committee.

Clara Barton Elementary School Cherry Hill, NJ
Boys W.A.T.C.H.

Boys W.A.T.C.H. (Words Actions Thoughts Character Heart) is a program created to help 5th grade male students develop strong character traits, leadership skills and social/emotional growth.

Donald Stewart Center for Early Childhood Elizabeth, NJ
Education School No. 51
Reading Under the Stars

Reading Under the Stars is an event that promotes our school's literacy goals through a meaningful experience where families come together with their children to read and share their love of books.

E.J.F./Aldene Elementary School Roselle Park, NJ
Lunch, Literacy, & Love; Serving Senior Citizens

Fifth-grade students host a holiday luncheon for senior citizens where they read and present their own original stories as gifts, sing holiday songs, play games & interview them for a follow-up piece.

East End School North Plainfield, NJ
Working to Close the Achievement Gap: Mustang Mentor Tutors

A tutoring program designed to help students, many of which are ESL/ELL, provides opportunities for older students to assist younger ones though targeting language difficulties and academic deficits.

Elwood Kindle School Pitman, NJ
Upstanders Day

Upstander Day is an event planned by the students to encourage Upstanding Behavior in all aspects of student life in school and the community.

Ezra L. Nolan Middle School Jersey City, NJ
MOSAIC: Mastering Our Skills and Inspiring Character

The goals of MOSAIC are to help students develop Positive Purpose, social-emotional skills, and inspiration to become their "best selves" to make contributions to their school, community and world.



G.E. Wilson Elementary School
Family Fun Nights

Hamilton, NJ

Our school holds family events to promote involvement, sportsmanship, and fun, where we all come together to provide families with opportunities for experiences that they don't normally get.

George Washington Middle School
Operation Give Back

Wayne, NJ

Our practice, Operation Giveback, is designed to allow students to put our Pillars of Character into action and expand their influence throughout the country.

Green-Fields Elementary
School Wide Bucket Filling

West Deptford, NJ

School wide bucket filling gives students and staff opportunities to recognize and show gratitude for kind acts.

Green-Fields Elementary
Trusted Adult Nomination

West Deptford, NJ

The Trusted Adult Nomination is an opportunity for students to recognize the care staff members have for them. Nominated adults receive a certificate to display outside their classroom or office.

Helen Fort/ Newcomb Middle School
Character Referrals

Pemberton, NJ

At Helen Fort Newcomb Middle School, we have implemented "Character Referrals" this school year to offer praise to students who exhibit exemplary behavior by upholding and practicing the core values.

Highland Park Middle School
Be the Change

Manahawkin, NJ

Be the Change is a social action research project that aims to raise awareness, foster empathy and encourage active global citizenship in students.

James A. McDivitt Elementary School
5th Grade Journey

Old Bridge, NJ

The 5th Grade Journey is a keepsake highlighting the contributions & achievements of students in the areas of academics, leadership, responsibility, character & commitment to our school and community.

James A. McDivitt Elementary School
Buzz around the World

Old Bridge, NJ

McDivitt School's "Buzz around the World" fair promotes global and cultural cognizance while encouraging worldwide friendship and overall ethnic awareness and diversity in our school community.

Jonas Salk Middle School
PEER Day

Old Bridge, NJ

PEER Day is program designed to engage students in activities and discussion that emphasize Power, Encouragement, Empathy and Respect.

Joseph H. Brensinger Elementary School
M.O.S.A.I.C. Project Grades 6-8

Jersey City, NJ

Mastering Our Skills And Inspiring Character (M.O.S.A.I.C.) is a Collaborative Project of the Rutgers Social-Emotional and Character Development Lab, and Joseph H. Brensinger Elementary School.



Joyce Kilmer Elementary School
Student-Teacher Mentor Program

Cherry Hill, NJ

Through this practice students are assigned an adult mentor to provide guidance, encouragement, and assistance with self-reflection while building meaningful relationships between staff and students.

Leroy Gordon Cooper Elementary School
Birchwood Drive
K-9 Comfort Club

Cliffwood Beach, NJ

Our K-9 Comfort Club is an intrinsically based program where our certified therapy dog works directly with the counselor and principal to assist students with social, emotional & educational concerns.

Lincoln-Hubbard Elementary School
"Pay It Forward" - Sharing and Caring For Our Community

Summit, NJ

Students engage in a multi-age community service initiative to create messages of hope and inspiration to the city of Summit, NJ.

Livingston High School
LANCETalks

Livingston, NJ

Modeled in the vein of a TED conference, LANCETalks is a series of intellectually stimulating and soul-stirring live presentations from a mix of both teachers and students.

M. Scott Carpenter Elementary School
Collaborating and Connecting with the School-Wide Theme

Old Bridge, NJ

Our Practice connected engaging learning activities to our school-wide theme, Exploring the Depths of Knowledge, and promoted collaboration and communication between 3rd-5th grade students and staff.

Macopin Middle School
West Milford Space Pen Pals

West Milford, NJ

In Space Pen Pals, 8th grade science students engage in a dialogue with 4th grade science students, sharing their acquired knowledge and love of astronomy.

Manito Elementary School
Building Bridges

Oakland, NJ

Building bridges affords our third grade students the opportunity to participate in a cultural exchange program to build character and community with students from the NJ Japanese School in Oakland.

Maple Road Elementary School
First Responders Ceremony

West Milford, NJ

The First Responders Ceremony honors our first responders while showing students good examples of citizenship from in and around their hometown.

Maple Road Elementary School
The Homeless Bus

West Milford, NJ

The Homeless Bus initiative provides Maple Road School students an opportunity to take moral action by providing the homeless with homemade lunches, toiletries, and clothing essentials.



Maple Road School and Macopin School
Macopin Mentors at Maple Road

West Milford, NJ

8th Grade Mediator Mentors from Macopin Middle School come to Maple Road School every Friday during Project Adventure class to support 6th Graders with character development and conflict resolution.

Marshall Hill School
Salute To Our Heroes: Field Day

West Milford, NJ

On Field Day, volunteers from local fire stations, police stations, EMTs, Veteran and The Search and Rescue Team attend Field Day to be honored by students and our school community.

Marshall Hill School
Bear Hugs for the Holidays

West Milford, NJ

Marshall Hill participates in the annual Bear Hugs for the Holidays program to show support and compassion to those who have to spend the holidays away from their loved ones due to illness.

North Brunswick Township High School
Prevention Using Student Help

North Brunswick, NJ

Our PUSH club is a cross-grade level intervention program in which high school students are trained to educate elementary school students on personal life skills.

North Plainfield High School
Rise Above: Success for Struggling Students and Their Mentors

North Plainfield, NJ

The high school Navy Junior ROTC cadets mentor 5th and 6th graders to provide children facing adversity with academic help, character training and enduring relationships that have a positive impact.

Old Bridge High School
P.E.E.R. Day (Power, Empathy, Encouragement, Respect)

Matawan, NJ

Our senior character ambassadors, along with our middle school peer leaders, facilitated P.E.E.R. Day to empower student leadership, development and growth through empathy, encouragement and respect.

Oxford Central School
C.O.R.R.E.C.T. Connects!

Oxford, NJ

"CORRECT Connects" a cross-grade level activity, that focuses student and community attention to our core values. Students sing & share important insights & life lessons; both at school and at home.

Oxford Central School
"What Does Your C.O.R.R.E.C.T. Look Like?"

Oxford, NJ

The "What Does Your CORRECT Look Like?" practice immerses our whole school community in reflection as to what our core values truly look like & how they assist us in becoming the best that we can be.

Paradise Knoll School
"Character Matters" at Paradise Knoll

Oak Ridge, NJ

Our school-wide, end-of-the-year video is inclusive of every student and staff member at Paradise Knoll showing our parents and community members how "Character Matters" at our school.



Perth Amboy High School
Teen PEP (Prevention Education Program)

Perth Amboy, NJ

We equip students with the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and behaviors to postpone sexual involvement, avoid pregnancy, HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted infections, and making healthy decisions.

Perth Amboy High School
The Panthers' Roar

Perth Amboy, NJ

The Panthers' Roar provides Perth Amboy High School students with the opportunity to use the power of film to share stories about people, events and issues that teens face.

Pinelands Regional Junior High School
The CatEye PRSD Facebook page

Little Egg Harbor, NJ

The CatEye is a social media account started anonymously by a staff member who wanted to create something with the purpose of promoting the positives, in both activities and people, of Pinelands.

Pinelands Regional Junior High School
Wildcats in Action Student Leadership Program

Little Egg Harbor, NJ

The Wildcats in Action is a student-led, student-driven leadership program that promotes student ownership of the fostering and implementation of character education initiatives in our school.

Robert R. Lazar Middle School
Living Lessons

Montville, NJ

The Living Lessons program brings speakers from all walks of life with moving stories of how they overcame adversity to achieve personal goals and, in many cases, make the world a better place.

Robert R. Lazar Middle School
Fun First Friday

Montville, NJ

First Friday of each month celebrates themes related to school climate, core values, wellness, mental health (healthy mind/healthy body) etc; examples are Fitness Friday, Fun Focus Friday (attached)

Samuel Mickle
Mickle Marketplace

Mickleton, NJ

Mickle Marketplace is an entrepreneurship opportunity for students, grade 4-6, to launch their own business platform, including the process of creating a product, advertising, and pricing.

Samuel Mickle
Hoops for Soup

Mickleton, NJ

Our annual Hoops for Soup basketball game is a school/community effort to collect nonperishable food items for two local soup kitchens while promoting positive relationships and sportsmanship.

Samuel T. Busansky Elementary Schools
60 Days of Service Journal

Pemberton, NJ

The "60 Days of Service Journal" is an activity in which students reflect upon the service of others and how they, in turn, can make a difference within the global community.

Samuel T. Busansky Upper Elementary School
Warm and Fuzzy Circle

Pemberton, NJ

Warm and Fuzzy Circles not only give our students opportunities to share positive feelings about each other, but they also help to build character, self-esteem, and relationships.



William A. Miller Elementary School

Old Bridge, NJ

All Aboard the Miller School Bus of Character

The program challenges fifth grade students to practice what they have learned about character education and to work cooperatively as "Character Ambassadors" on the Miller School buses.

William Annin Middle School

Basking Ridge, NJ

Holocaust Remembrance Day

The Holocaust Remembrance Unit includes interdisciplinary activities, creates a lasting impression regarding character and morality, and empowers students to become responsible global citizens.

Woodrow Wilson School

New Brunswick, NJ

Character Building Around the Family Table

Woodrow Wilson's Annual Spaghetti Social and SEL Parent Learning Night promotes an environment of unity as students, families, staff, and community members gather to celebrate our school's culture.

New York

Alexander Hamilton Junior/Senior High School

Elmsford, NY

Peers as Leaders

The PAL program identified leaders within the school who were trained in instructional and experiential practices designed to facilitate workshops focused on responsibility and tolerance.

Bridgeport Elementary School

Bridgeport, NY

Bridge To Kindergarten

Bridge to Kindergarten gives us the opportunity to welcome new kindergarteners and their families to our school community in a supportive manner helping them to feel comfortable in our building.

West Patent Elementary School

Bedford Hills, NY

Omode: Children Learning and Growing

OMODE, West Patent's character education song, addresses our school's core values, reinforces what it means to be a person of character, and captures the essence of our character education initiative.

Ohio

Clay Avenue Community School

Toledo, OH

Young Men and Women of Honor

Inspire and encourage our young men and women to make significant personal growth so that they will become strong, independent, confident and successful Young Men and Women of Honor.

Dorr Elementary

Toledo, OH

Learning Ship Shape Character

Our students creatively teach the character traits during our trimester character assemblies to ensure that their fellow peers are "Ship Shape on the S. S. Dorr".

Imagine Academy at Sullivant

Columbus, OH

Partnering Together to Sock Homelessness

The second grade students at Imagine Academy at Sullivant led our school and partnered with the community to show our homeless neighbors small acts of love can make a difference.



Imagine Bella Academy of Excellence
Scarf Bombing

Cleveland, OH

Our fifth and sixth graders decided to make scarfs and then go out into the community and tie them on trees with notes for anyone who needed warmth this winter could take a scarf.

Imagine Bella Academy of Excellence
Book of the Year

Cleveland, OH

Each year Imagine Bella Academy selects a character-driven read aloud text that embodies the spirit of our essential questions.

Imagine Great Western Academy
Worthy Girls Club

Columbus, OH

The Worthy Girls Club is a key opportunity for our middle school girls to develop their self-worth/self-esteem, encourage positive body image and foster leadership characteristics.

Imagine Great Western Academy
Garden Club

Columbus, OH

In conjunction with Local Matters, a non-profit organization that offers healthful food education to build healthy communities, our students have created a community garden at school.

Imagine Hill Academy
Kind Spies

Toledo, OH

Kind Spies is a student driven random acts of kindness program

Imagine Klepinger
Community Harvest Festival

Dayton, OH

The students and community leaders of Imagine Klepinger came together for free pumpkins and hayrides to show our love for our community and students.

Imagine Madison School of the Arts
"Rebekah's House is our Family."

Toledo, OH

Fifth Grade students adopted a shelter, they knew one of two of their fellow classmates were living at, showing amazing empathy for their fellow classmates.

Imagine Woodbury Academy
"How can you be a WOLF?"

Dayton, OH

Being a WOLF means that children pledge to make Wise choices, take Ownership of their work and actions, show Leadership with good character, and share Friendship with others.

Lakota Ridge Junior School
Success through Integrity/Kids of Character Program

West Chester, OH

Success through Integrity is developing Kids of Character where students are exposed to and taught character traits that come alive in our daily life at Ridge Junior School.



Oklahoma

Dove Science Academy-OKC
Charity Week

OK City, OK

Charity Week provides students the opportunity to research charitable organizations and raise money for them while learning about the needs, services, and impacts in the field and in the classroom.

Eisenhower High School
Partner's Club

Lawton, OK

Partner's Club facilitates a mentoring/partnering relationship between regular education students and students with disabilities; students interact with one another in numerous activities.

Eisenhower High School
IKE Ignition Lead2Feed

Lawton, OK

For five years, Ike Ignition Lead2Feed has conducted an annual service learning project in which freshmen and their mentors raise funds and food through various means for our local Salvation Army.

Lincoln Elementary
BUD-E Building Understanding Daily through Empathy

Pryor, OK

Lincoln Elementary implemented Be a BUD-E to provide opportunities for learners to practice empathy and kindness through tolerance of diversity and respect while creating an inclusive environment.

MacArthur High School
Relay for Life: Passport to Hope

Lawton, OK

Relay for Life: Passport to Hope is a program to raise awareness of those who are affected by cancer and to raise money for research and treatment of this disease; MHS and other schools work together

MacArthur High School
The Mac Program

Lawton, OK

The Mac program is an intentional approach to instill the character traits of discipline, toughness, competitiveness, love, and energy into our athletes in order to make them successful in life.

Muskogee High School
O.K.I.E. on the R.O.A.D.

Muskogee, OK

Muskogee High School students voted to add to the touchstone, R.O.A.D. (Respect, Opportunity, Achievement, Determination); students added O.K.I.E. (Open-minded, Knowledge, Integrity, Empathy.)

Sadler Arts Academy
Sadler Arts Academy: Nickels for Nets

Muskogee, OK

"Nickels for Nets" It's not how much you give, but the heart of the giver.

Pennsylvania

Bucks County Technical High School
BCTHS Character Education Speakers Bureau

Fairless Hills, PA

The BCTHS Character Education Speakers Bureau invites a variety of speakers to present to students and staff on a number of character related issues including bullying and positive decision making.



Fallsington Elementary School
Character Day

Fallsington, PA

Students participated in activities that were designed to promote their character education awareness, to identify their character strengths, and to guide them in their character development journey.

Fallsington Elementary School
Join Us in Peace

Fallsington, PA

Students reflected on their beliefs, identified a cause, & engaged in a march to celebrate diversity, to promote acceptance, & to encourage others to embrace others with open minds and caring hearts.

Makefield Elementary
Personal Safety

Yardley, PA

Safeties at Makefield help to maintain, encourage and foster good character through leadership and modeling behaviors that promote good character. Our safety patrol has been in existence for 30 years.

Pen Argyl High School
Senior Citizen Day

Pen Argyl, PA

Senior Citizen's Day allows community members to interact and engage with the student body in student led activities in a festive holiday atmosphere.

Pennsbury High School
Welcome to the Nest

Fairless Hills, PA

The "Welcome to the Nest" event is a full day of activities that serves to introduce our incoming Freshman to the Pennsbury PEACE Challenge, our character education program.

Pennsbury High School
Little Angels

Fairless Hills, PA

The Little Angels program is a service project where faculty, staff, and students, in conjunction with the Salvation Army, adopt children within the school community, purchasing gifts for the holiday.

Wissahickon High School
Gratitude Calendar

Ambler, PA

The Wissahickon High School Friends of Rachel club challenged every school community member to express gratitude through performing an act of kindness every day during the month of November.

Wissahickon High School
Gratitude Jars

Ambler, PA

Daily dated gratitude notes were placed in Mason jars to be reviewed one year later by the person who wrote them.

South Carolina

Finley Road Elementary School
Falcons SOAR

Rock Hill, SC

The Falcons SOAR matrix, created by Finley Road Elementary School stakeholders, is the motto and guide for the positive behaviors we live by as a school.



Texas

Athlos Leadership Academy Brownsville **Brownsville, TX**
Engaging Families & Community in Performance Character
Engaging Families & Community in Performance Character

Brockett Elementary **Aubrey, TX**
Market Street
Through student led decision making, Brockett Elementary kindergarten through fourth grades made crafts to sell at a "Market Street" event using the proceeds to give back to community families in need

Klein Forest High School **Klein, TX**
Eagle's Nest Character Development
Students will design character education lessons centered around our core values and information collected from a student survey.

Medlin Middle School **Trophy Club, TX**
Student-Driven Empathy Projects
7th graders researched areas in their school or communities in need of empathy, then created and documented their own empathy projects to inspire others to do the same.

Secundaria Tec Ciudad Juarez **El Paso, TX**
Warm Up Your Neighbor, the Generosity Project
Warm up your neighbor, the generosity project

Utah

Blessed Sacrament Catholic School **Sandy, UT**
CommUNITY Walk-About
The CommUNITY Walk-About encompasses growing various plants and vegetables, harvesting & planting the seeds in pots, creating plant stakes, and having students walk to neighboring schools to deliver.

Virginia

Chimborazo Elementary School **Richmond, VA**
"Helping Hands" Care Bags Service Learning Project
The "Helping Hands" Care Bag Practice is a project that our students initiated to support students who have experienced a trauma.

Fairfield Court Elementary **Richmond, VA**
Fairfield Court Elementary School Presents ABC's for Kindergarteners (Attendance, Books, & Character)
A program that engages kindergarten students and their parents in interactive after-school activities that enhance knowledge in school attendance, early reading skills and character development.

George Mason Elementary School **Richmond, VA**
Shout-Out Slips
Our school has Student Shout-Out Slips for students, teachers, and staff members to complete.



Lyles Crouch Traditional Academy
ROARing in the Community

Alexandria, VA

All Lyles-Crouch students and families apply school values and Pillars of Character through monthly community service projects that address immediate needs in our community.

Woodville Elementary School
Citizen of the Month

Richmond, VA

The Citizen of the Month Program is used to recognize individual students who have shown a specific character trait for the month.

Wisconsin

Capitol West Academy
Revamp of Core Values

Milwaukee, WI

We asked close to 500 students, staff, families and community members to review our core values and choose those that best reflected our school community and should be explicitly taught at school.

Messmer Catholic Schools
Grade-Level Parent Nights

Milwaukee, WI

Parent Nights offer grade-level specific activities to help parents experience their child's curriculum and build relationships with other families and school staff.

River Falls High School
RFSD Sunshine Fund

River Falls, WI

Our Mission Statement: We are a compassionate student led non-profit organization with the goal of generating funds to give back to others in need within our greater community.

