Strong Foundations Through Self-Awareness and Character Education
Contact Information

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Objectives

- Know facts about character education and NC Law
- Know the character traits listed in NC Law
- Acquire resources for quality character education delivery
- Discover leaders in the character education field
- Where to find “tried and true” lesson plans on character education
- Discover how you can help students with their self-awareness
Hot Topics-Character Education

- Character Education and Positive Behavioral Interventions & Support (PBIS): Friends, Foes, or Other?
- Internet Responsibility and the role of Character Education
- How Can We Create Effective Partnerships with Parents?
Character Education Is:

- Celebrating Uniqueness
Character Education Is Not:

- Making Everyone Fit Into The Same Mold
“Character Education cannot be covered in ten minutes a day. It must be at the heart of the entire program...Character can’t be taught as a course, it is a way of living.”

By Rod Paige, Former US Secretary of Education
North Carolina Law:
Each local board of education (LEA) shall develop and implement character education instruction with input from the local community. The instruction shall be incorporated into the standard curriculum and should address the following traits:
Character Traits
G.S. 115C-81

Courage
Good-Judgment
Integrity

Kindness
Perseverance
Respect

Responsibility
Self-Discipline
G.S. 115C-81 Addresses:

- Respect for School Personnel
- Responsibility for School Safety
- Service to Others
- Good Citizenship
Mandated CE

Alabama
Alaska
Arkansas
California
Connecticut
Florida
Georgia
Illinois
Indiana
Kentucky
Louisiana

Nebraska
Nevada
New Hampshire
New York
North Carolina
South Carolina
South Dakota
Tennessee
Utah
Virginia
West Virginia
Wyoming
Encourage CE

Arizona
Colorado
Delaware
District of Columbia
Idaho
Iowa
Kansas
Maine
Maryland
Michigan

Minnesota
Mississippi
New Mexico
Ohio
Oklahoma
Oregon
Pennsylvania
Rhode Island
Texas
Washington
Dr. Hal Urban
20 Things Good Teachers Do:

▶ Here’s a few from the list:

▶ Laugh With Their Students
▶ Help Students Set Lifetime Goals
▶ Catch Their Students Doing Things Right
▶ Get Better Every Year
Dr. Hal Urban

- **Book:** Positive Words, Powerful Results

- Discussed the influence our words have on others

- Sticks and Stones may hurt my bones but words will never hurt me.....NOT!
What Does Character Mean?


The English word *character* comes from the Greek word *charassein*, which means, “to engrave,” such as on a wax tablet, a gemstone, or a metal surface. From that root evolved the meaning of *character* as a distinctive mark or sign, and from there grew our conception of character as “an individual’s pattern of behavior...his moral constitution.”
Dr. Michelle Borba

- Gave this question to 10,000 teachers from coast to coast over a 5 year period.
- What is the most important thing I can do to help my child succeed?
Dr. Michelle Borba

- **#1 response:** “Help children learn to believe in themselves”

- Child Development Experts Conclude:
  
  “For our children to succeed, they must first believe they can succeed.”
Dr. Michelle Borba  
Hot Topic: Parental Involvement

- Survey from Dr. Michele Borba’s Book:

  - *Parents Do Make a Difference: How to Raise Kids with Solid Character, Strong Minds, & Caring Hearts*

- A Child with a Strong “I Can” Attitude
- Parents rate their Child in this survey
11 Principles of Effective Character Education

1. Promote core ethical values and supportive performance values
2. Define character to include thinking, feeling and behavior
3. Good CE is comprehensive, intentional and proactive
4. Creates a caring community
5. Provides students opportunities for moral action
6. Includes meaningful and challenging curriculum
CEP 11 Principles

- 7. Strives to foster students self motivation
- 8. Engages the staff as a learning and moral community
- 9. Fosters shared moral leadership
- 10. Engages family and community members
- 11. Assesses the character of the school
Character Education Information, Updates, Lesson Plans

www.Character.org
CE Lesson/Activity

- **Lesson:** The Power of Words (Wiltons Manors ES, 2008 National School of Character) (caring, empathy, tolerance, and respect)
- **Age Level:** Elementary
- **Objectives:**
  - Identify story elements
  - Identify and discuss character traits
  - Discuss how words leave a lasting imprint on a person
  - Identify ways to treat others with kindness
  - Use problem-solving strategies to brainstorm how the main character could have handled the negative comments/actions of the other characters
National Hot Topic

Internet Safety
Sprint Foundation

- 4NetSafety.com
- Free tools from expert sources
- Resource Center (Teachers, Parents)
- NSTeens.org appeals to tweens: uses comic book-style characters who model safer online practices
Activity

- Internet Safety-Middle or High School

- 4NetSafety.com
National Hot Topic

- Positive Behavioral Interventions & Support (PBIS)
- Character Education
- How do they work together or... do they???
Character Education is “Caught” Not “Taught”

Dr. Phil Vincent
Positive Behavioral Interventions & Support

Website:  

www.pbis.org
Reasons Why Kids Are Truant
From: Office of Juvenile Justice

- Life Styles
- Self-Concept
- Possible Academic Failure
- Getting Behind in School Work
- Home Situations
- Homelessness
- Poverty
Reasons Why Kids Are Truant

- Transient Living
- Domestic Violence
- Transportation
- Parental Discipline
- Student-Teacher Relationships
- Academic Placement
- Inconsistent Attendance Policies
Reasons Why Kids Are Truant

- Health Problems
- Because They Can Get By With It!
- Embarrassed of Family or Clothes
- Bullying
- Zeros
- Discipline Problems
What Works With Truancy Issues

- Early Intervention
- Caring Person to Touch Base With
- Predicting Trouble Ahead: Looking at Elementary Attendance Records for Unexcused Absences
- Tracking
- Calling Parents/Home Visits
What Works With Truancy Issues

- Involving Social Worker
- Ending Out-of-School Suspensions for Truancy
- Eliminating Failing Grades and Removing Attendance as Factor in Grading - Use A, B, C, and Incomplete
What Works With Truancy Issues

- Making *Start Times* for *Secondary Schools* *Later* in the Morning
- Focus Policies on Learning and Earning Credits (*Partial Credit Options*)
- Offer Specialized Classes, Such as Saturday or Evening Classes to Support Students who have Fallen Behind and need to catch up
What Works With Truancy Issues

- Eliminating “push out policies” that withhold learning opportunities from truant students
- Making Parents Feel Welcome at School
What Works With Truancy Issues

- Information From: Office of Juvenile Justice

- **Truancy Reduction Demonstration Program**: Established 3 A’s: (based on research findings)
Self-Awareness
Dr. William Glasser
Reality Therapy

Basic Human Needs Include:

- Survival
- Power
- Belonging
- Freedom
- Fun
Maslow: Hierarchy of Needs

- Survival
- Protection/safety
- Belonging
- Competence/Learning
- Autonomy or Self-Actualization
Applied Control Theory
Dr. E. Perry Good

- Survival
- Love
- Power
- Fun
- Freedom
- Safety/Security

- www.perrygood.com
- New View Publications
- Helping Kids Help Themselves
- In Pursuit of Happiness
Applied Control Theory

BASIC NEEDS CIRCLE

BELONGING
- Friendship
- Caring
- Involvement

POWER
- Importance
- Recognition
- Skill
- Competence

FUN
- Pleasure
- Enjoyment
- Learning
- Laughter

FREEDOM
- Choice
- Independence
- Liberty
- Autonomy

Survival
Quotes for Thought

From Pursuit of Happiness, E. Perry Good

“The direction in which your life is going is directly related to whether happiness will be a by-product of what you’re doing”.

“Happiness is a by-product of leading a balanced, varied, and satisfying life which meets your needs”.