

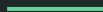
Character Education

Pleasant Grove Elementary

"Today's students are tomorrow's leaders and citizens; if schools can educate students to be young people of high character; our country will eventually become a nation of high character" (Ryan and Bohlin, 1999, xi).

The 11 Principles of Character Education

And how we address them



11 Principles of Character Education

1. The school community promotes core ethical and performance values as the foundation of good character.
2. The school defines “character” comprehensively to include thinking, feeling, and doing.
3. The school uses a comprehensive, intentional, and proactive approach to character development.
4. The school creates a caring community
5. The school provides students with opportunities for moral action.
6. The school offers a meaningful and challenging academic curriculum that respects all learners, develops their character, and helps them to succeed.
7. The school fosters students’ self-motivation.
8. The school staff is an ethical learning community that shares responsibility for character education and adheres to the same core values that guide the students
9. The school fosters shared leadership and long-range support of the character education initiative.
10. The school engages families and community members as partners in the character-building effort.
11. The school regularly assesses its culture and climate, the functioning of its staff as character educators, and the extent to which its students manifest good character.

Character Education and PBIS



“Care”acter Education

Our character education program promotes positive behavior and focuses on one trait per month that is promoted throughout the school and in each classroom.

CARES Pledge

Our CARES pledge is said daily on the announcements and students recite it school-wide. It reinforces the character traits we promote.

Positive Points and Pride Pats

Students can earn positive points individually for showing good character. Classes earn Pride Pats when they do well as a whole.

CARES Cards and Think Sheets

CARES cards are utilized in every classroom to record and report discipline issues. Think Sheets are filled out in the office for consequences. The sheets are tied to our CARES program.

August

Effort

September

Responsibility

October

Cooperation

November

Leadership

December

Caring

January

Respect

February

Acceptance

March

Trustworthy

April

Self-Control

May

Determination

Panthers
"CARE"acter
Values



How it works

Step 1

School-Wide

The school will emphasize the character trait of the month on daily announcements, through newsletters, via positive reinforcement, on the website, and using visual reminders throughout the building.

Step 2

Teacher Role

The teacher will emphasize the monthly trait during mini-lessons, morning meetings, positive reinforcement in the classroom, and handing out special notes and stickers to students who model the trait.

Step 3

Counselor

The counselor's classroom guidance lessons tie into the different character traits that the school is promoting. The counselor includes these traits when working with students and giving classroom guidance lessons.



RESPECT

RESPONSIBLE • CARING • SELF-AWARENESS

LEADERSHIP • SELF-CONTROL • PERSISTENCE

School-Wide
Integration

PBIS and Visuals

Panther "CARE"acter Values Monthly Newsletter



April:

Self-Control

What it means:

Control over one's own impulses, emotions, or Actions, especially in difficult situations



Synonyms:

- Discipline
- Will power
- Restraint
- Strength of Mind
- Self-will

Quote:

"Things will go wrong at times. You can't always control circumstances. However, you can always control your attitude, approach, and response. Your options are to complain or to look ahead and figure out how to make the situation better." -Tony Dungy

Discussion at home:

When you feel angry, what is one healthy way you can control your emotions?

Signature:



What it looks like:

- Controlling your anger
- Being aware of your emotions
- Doing the right thing, even when it may be difficult
- Resisting peer pressure
- Think about your actions before you act

Book Recommendation:

No, David by David Shannon

What do kids say about Having self-control?



"It means keeping yourself together-like if you want to run in the hallway...it means keeping yourself together and not doing it!"
-Avery, Grade 3

In history...

40 years ago a Stanford psychologist named Walter Mischel led a famous experiment called the Marshmallow Test. When given the choice of one immediate reward or two rewards if the subject waited for 15 minutes, Mischel discovered that subjects that waited had better outcomes in life, such as SAT scores, Body Mass Index and educational attainment.



► CHARACTER EDUCATION

Monthly Value

"CARE"acter Values

Monthly Newsletter

► "CARE"acter VALUES

About Us ► Character Education ► "CARE"acter Values

Monthly "CARE"acter Values

- August: Effort
 - Def: hard work of mind or body
 - Giving effort at school means giving your personal best, trying hard, being organized, taking the initiative, and participating in discussions and group time
- September: Responsibility
 - Def: having a duty to take care of and be dependable
 - Being responsible at school means taking care of yourself and your things, being a good friend, being a good example, turning in work on time, and being accountable for your actions
- October: Cooperation
 - Def.: Working together for a common goal
 - Cooperating at school means working together with classmates, resolving conflicts, supporting others, being helpful, showing teamwork, and problem-solving
- November: Leadership
 - Def.: The position of someone who guides or directs a group
 - Being a leader at school means being a role model for others, serving others, being helpful, honest, and trustworthy, being someone others

Cooperation

A photograph of a school hallway. The ceiling is a drop ceiling with fluorescent lights. The walls are decorated with colorful murals and signs. On the left, there is a mural of a house with a sign that says 'PORTER PAINTS'. Further down the hallway, there is a sign that says 'Effort'. On the right, there is a large mural of a rainbow and a sign that says 'Knowledge'. The hallway leads to a bright area at the end.

Effort

Knowledge

PGES "CARES"

Name: _____ Date: _____

Classroom _____

	M	T	W	Th	F
C					
A					
R					
E					
S					
Citizenship Grade for the Current Week		0-1 marks	2 marks	3-4 marks	5+ marks
		S+	S	S-	U
Parent Signature: _____					

C	A	R	E	S
Choices and Responsibility	Academics	Respect	Excellence and Personal Best	Safety
*Honesty	*Not using work time wisely	*Listening	*Cooperative	*Hands and feet to self
*Manners		*Following directions	*Perseverance	*Walk at all times
*Self-Control	*Missing work		*Self-discipline	*Bully-free
*Responsibility	*Responsibility	*Include Others		*Follow emergency procedures
*Independence	*Organization	*School/Personal	*Dependable	
*Positive	*Work Quality/quantity/effort	property	*Accountable	*No rough play
*Attitude		*Putdowns		
*Talking	*Goal-oriented	*Personal Space	*Embraces	
	*On-task	*Considerate	challenges	
		*Acceptance		
		*Tattling		

Embedding Character Education into our school culture is part of our everyday procedures.

- Daily announcements
 - Students of the month
 - Positive points
 - Nominate to read announcements
 - CARES pledge
 - Behavioral Think Sheets
-



RESPECT

RESPONSIBLE • CARING • SELF-AWARENESS

Classroom
Integration

Mini-lessons and
Posters

September

Responsibility

~having a duty to take care of and
being dependable

- *Work through difficulties to help yourself and others
- *Be reliable and prove others can depend on you
- *Be a good example for those around you
- *Discuss the Pride Pledge
- *Being helpful
- *Being aware and careful of the choices you make
- *Being accountable {your actions affect everyone around}
- attitude for your words, actions, and

Character

Trait Cards

- *Listening to others
- *Being kind and showing you care
- *Expressing gratitude
- *Forgiving others
- *Helping those in need

- *Concern for the well-being of yourself and others
- *Demonstrating empathy and compassion
- *Maintaining friendly relationships
- *Making encouraging comments about others

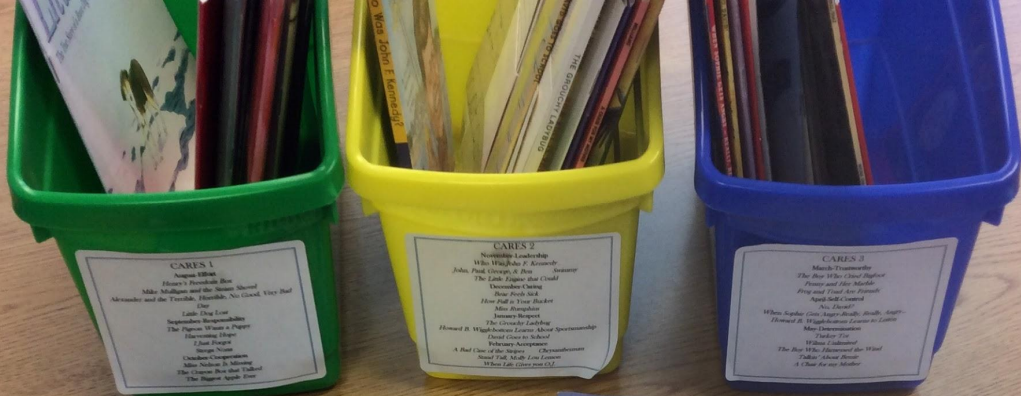
~Displaying kindness and concern for others

Caring

December

Teacher Trait Display





Character Trait Read Alouds

Positive Reinforcement Stickers



Random Acts of Kindness

April: Self-Control

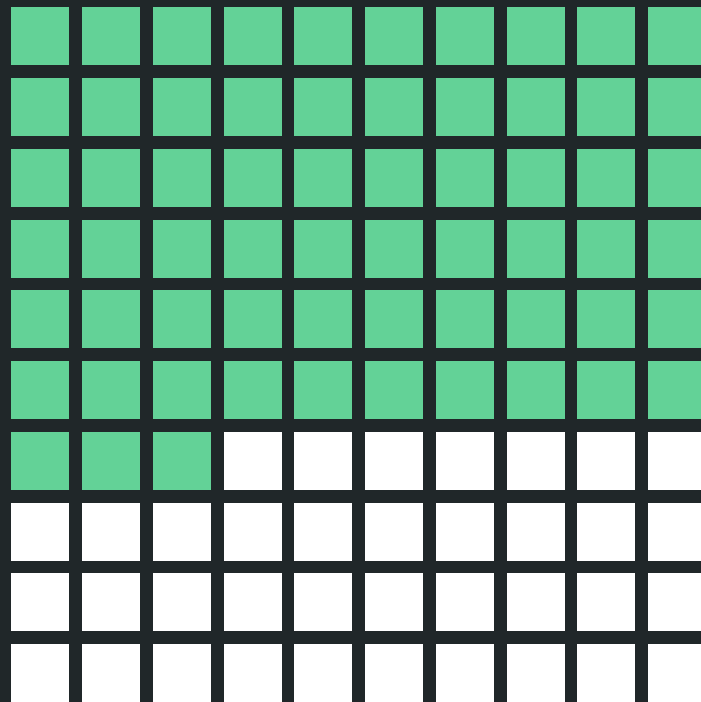
Name: _____

Lightly shade each box after you have completed it. You may receive a positive point when you have filled all the boxes.

You demonstrated self-control by having no marks on your CARES Card for the month of April	Let someone go before you in line when you have the opportunity	Hold the door for someone	Write Mrs. Koehler or Mrs. Garrett a note thanking her for all she does for our school
Organize a book bin or book shelf in your classroom	You demonstrated self-control by raising your hand to share your idea or thought during a class discussion	Give a compliment to someone younger than you	You demonstrated self-control by listening quietly during the afternoon announcements
Pick up scraps or garbage in the classroom, hallway, bathroom, or cafeteria even if it wasn't yours	You demonstrated self-control by waiting quietly in line with your class in the cafeteria and your class earned a Pride Pat	Cheer someone up	You demonstrated self-control by not talking in the hallway and you encouraged others to do the same
Read a story to a younger brother, sister, or friend	Help a classmate with something that he or she didn't understand	You showed self-control by walking quietly in line in the hallway and your class earned a Pride Pat from a teacher	Help your mom or dad by doing a chore around the house such as folding laundry

The Counselor

**Monthly
classroom
guidance lessons
reinforce
character
education**



"The school encourages the children to give their personal best and helps them take responsibility for themselves, their work and their actions."

Over 70 parent comments directly related to school culture!

"There is an emphasis on character building and doing the right thing for themselves and others."

"The entire staff - administrators, teachers, and support staff - are all truly invested in the kids. They provide such a welcoming environment that is focused on each child reaching their highest potential. It is comforting to know that my kids are in good hands!"

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Q&A