OLEAN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Character Education

Grades K-12

Goal of Character Education: to increase positive behaviors in children, better preparing them to achieve academic success and become responsible and capable contributors to our global society.

What is Character Education?

- It is the development of knowledge, skills, and abilities that promotes social and personal responsibility.
- It is the development of good character traits and moral virtues that enables the learner to make informed and responsible choices.
- Character education is a planned, comprehensive, and a systematic approach for teaching respect, responsibility, honesty, citizenship, acceptance, and caring.

Character Education and the School Curriculum:

Character education curriculum centers on the development of the whole child in an educational climate that nurtures academic success while building self-esteem. Character education is not an "add on" to the existing curriculum but an innovative approach that integrates the teaching of values, character building, self-awareness, positive self-esteem, and critical thinking skills throughout the curriculum.

Character Education curriculum engages students in a variety of experiential learning activities that include cooperative learning, role-playing, creative thinking, problem solving, and conflict management strategies. The framework for implementing the character education curriculum is designed to enable teachers to achieve the goals of the curriculum while effectively meeting state and district goals and objectives. Students learn throughout the existing curriculum the benefits and consequences of behavior. They learn the power of choice. They learn to share these qualities at home, school, and in the community. All students can benefit by applying the concepts taught in character education to real life.

Traits of Character Education: The Olean City School District emphasizes the following **character traits:**

Honesty	Respect	Responsibility
Caring	Citizenship	Acceptance