

dLACE
THE DISTRICT LEADER ACADEMY IN CHARACTER EDUCATION

In coordination  with DESE

CharacterPlus, a Missouri 501(c)(3), has the nation's only successful evidence-based character education school improvement process known to increase academic performance, reduce incidents of negative classroom behaviors, and increase student, teacher, and parent connectedness to the school. The District Leader Academy in Character Education (dLACE) works directly with school district leadership to teach, train, and equip them to lead the implementation of the process. This character development work also aligns with DESE standards. Since inception, dLACE participant districts report:

- Higher APR scores than the state average
- A twofold increase in their understanding of evidence-based character education practices and their ability to facilitate them

dLACE IS IN DEMAND

- 🌀 As an indication of both need and **qualitative positive impact**, dLACE has seen consistent year-over-year growth in participation
- 🌀 Through dLACE, CharacterPlus is the **only statewide provider** of character education leadership training that positively impacts school climate.
- 🌀 And it's offered at **no cost** to you!



CHARACTERPLUS

Thirty (30)
District
Consulting
Hours
Provided by
Senior-Level
Staff

State and
National
School of
Character Site
Visits

Five (5)
All-Day
Trainings for
dLACE
District
Leadership
Team

All Travel
and Hotel
Expenses Paid
for dLACE
Leadership
Team

Six (6) Free
On-Site
Customized
Trainings

MSIP6 Aligned
District Audit

Free Character
Education
Library and
iCharacterPlus
Access

CORE TRAINING ELEMENTS & IMPLEMENTATION TACTICS

- Foundational Elements of Positive School Climate and Character Development
 - Leadership Essentials
 - District Core Value Implementation
 - Staff Climate and Relationship Strength
- 11 Principles of Character Education Framework
 - Character-Based Discipline
 - Character-Based Counseling
 - Assessing District Climate
- Aligning School Resources and CSIP Planning
- Reviewing School Functions: Academic, Instructional, and Behavior Systems Alignment



Combined dLACE Participant Districts' APR

2024 vs 2023

Performance Points

+2%

Continuous Improvement Points

+14%

2024 vs 2022

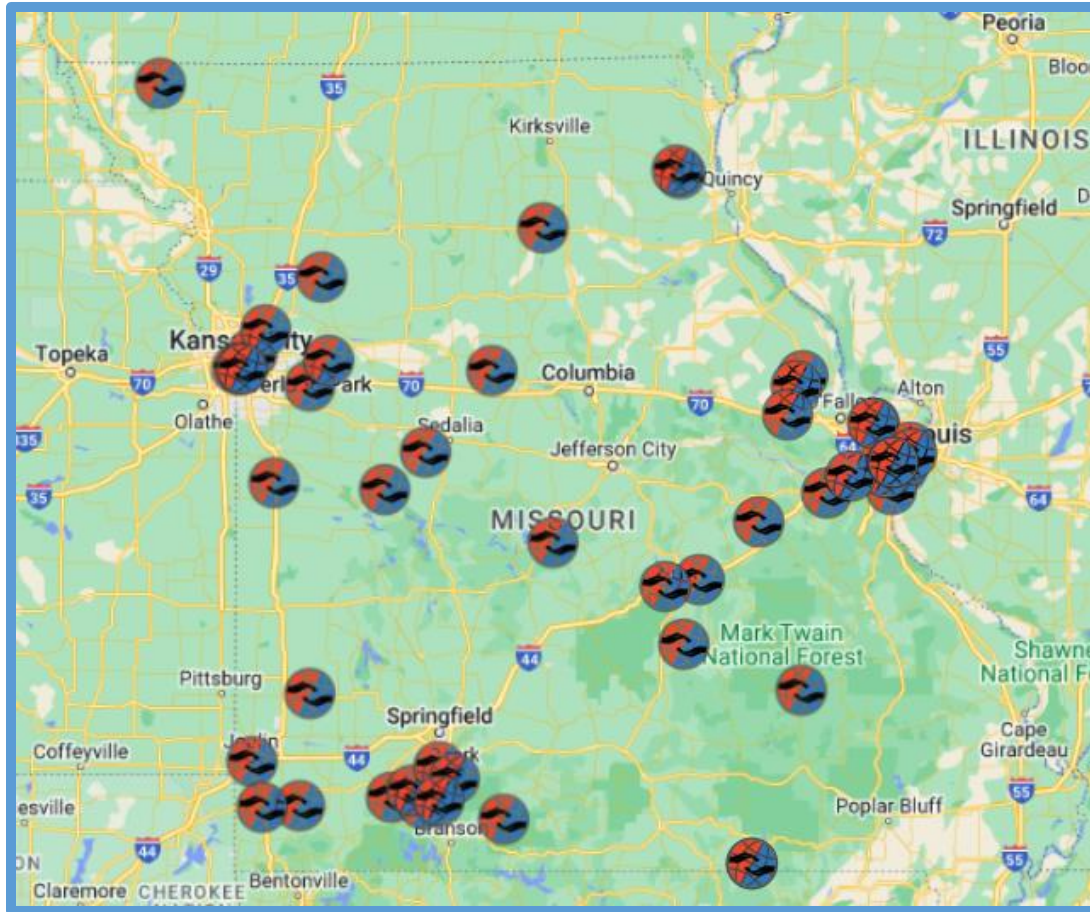
Performance Points

+7%

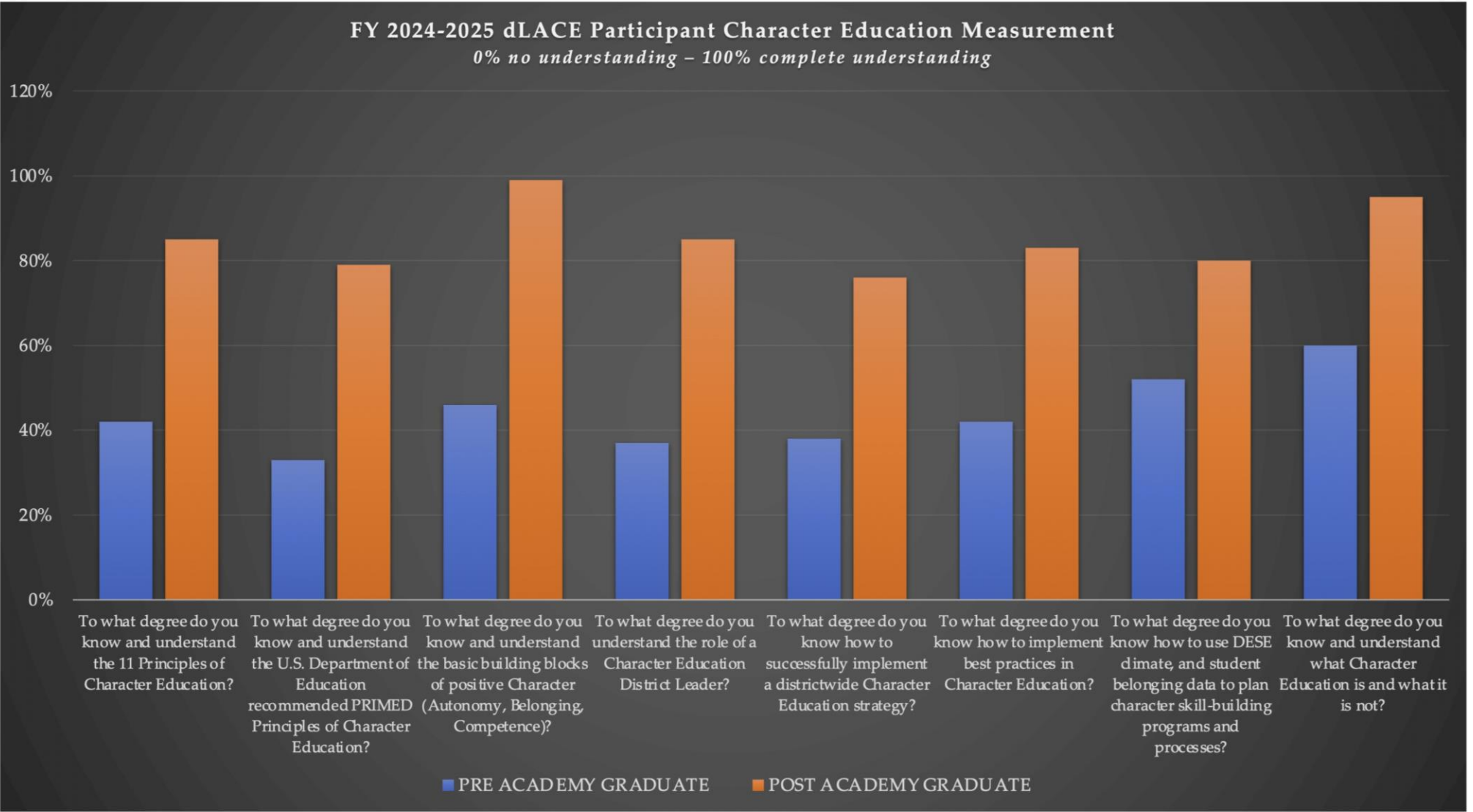
Continuous Improvement Points

+17%

CharacterPlus research continues to reflect that when character education processes and practices are an integral part of a school district's focus, compared to districts that do not have that focus, academic performance improve, feelings of school connectedness are stronger, graduation rates are higher, and fewer incidents of negative student behavior are reported.



Program Reach



Recent Participant Thoughts

"It has shown me the power of intentionality with character education and that it touches everything. We have transformed as a building based on our character work this year."

"The biggest takeaway is that this is a process. Make change move slowly with heart and intentional direction on where the district needs and wants to go. Starting with staff understanding, this change happens with who we want to be as individuals and as a district. I have gained more confidence as a leader in my school through positive interactions, energy, and daily behavior modeling."

"Recognizing that character education must be a major part of any school district! And knowing how to ask for support during this implementation."

"Loved all of it. Site visits were my favorite. The data walk-through was extremely helpful."

"I really appreciated the collaboration with and better understanding of other school districts and their journeys toward being more intentional spaces of character."



What Will Your District Do Now?

"Have conversations and review best practices to see how they support character development."

"We will be starting a book study, increasing family involvement, training staff on classroom meetings, implementing a focus on our new core strengths, and continuing to move to years 2 and 3."

"I will help guide my district away from the old way of working with our students and show them how we can build students of character by internally motivating them."

"Character values in schools; development of district values for the district."

"Look at data, evaluate our actions, and take steps toward 'belonging' —do we really have a place for everyone?!"

"Crosswalk our framework with the 11 Principles and the ABCs of Character Education, evaluate our current practices, and increase intentionality of the framework with a plan for data collection."



Questions?

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Register



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