Character Plus
2023-2024 Programming Guide
POSITIVE

PERCENT INCREASE
CHARACTERPLUS MEMBER
SCHOOLS REFLECT ON STATE
STANDARDS & ACT TESTING

PERCENT OF STATE & NATIONAL
SCHOOLS OF CHARACTER OUR
CHARACTERPLUS REGION
REPRESENTS NATIONALLY

NUMBER OF CHARACTERPLUS
PARTNER SCHOOL DISTRICTS,
ORGANIZATIONS, &
UNIVERSITIES

NUMBER OF DONATING
COMPANIES, INDIVIDUALS, &
FOUNDATIONS TO HELP KEEP
PER STUDENT PARTNERSHIP
FEES LOW

NUMBER OF REGIONAL
EDUCATORS PARTICIPATING IN
ONLINE WORKSHOP PLATFORM
iCHARACTERPLUS

NUMBER OF REGIONAL AND
STATEWIDE SCHOOLS INCLUDED IN
CHARACTERPLUS PARTNERSHIP
CHARACTER EDUCATION WORK

CHANGE

5+

20+

50+

150+

300+

500+
“This academy helps put character at the forefront of educating students...the professional development is highly collaborative and something I can use immediately in the classroom.”

“…the narrative must be shifted: character education isn’t just one more thing on your plate as a leader, IT IS the plate…”

“…social emotional learning, restorative practices...the BEAUTIFUL THING about character education is that it incorporates all of that…”

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THE TEAM

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PROGRAMS

CHARACTERPLUS WAY

TEACHER ACADEMY IN CHARACTER ED (TACE)

iCHARACTERPLUS

FOUNDATIONAL CERTIFICATION IN CHARACTER ED

cSURVEY

SCHOOLS OF CHARACTER (SOC) APPLICATION SUPPORT

ATHLEADERSHIP ACADEMY IN CHARACTER ED (AACE)

AT THE TABLE – WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP

DISTRICT TRAINING SERIES WORKSHOPS

EQUITY & JUSTICE ACADEMY IN CHARACTER ED (EJACE)

SOCIO-EMOTIONAL LEADERSHIP FOUNDATIONS (SELF)

CULTURE & CLIMATE ASSESSMENTS (C2AUDIT)

VIRTUAL TEACHER ACADEMY IN CHARACTER ED (vTACE)

CHAMPIONS FOR CHARACTER

DISTRICT LEADER ACADEMY IN CHARACTER ED (dLACE)

CULTURE CARRIERS

IMPACT

school climate, culture, and academic excellence

expertly equip your future teacher leaders

character workshops and resources at the ready

create a solid character education foundation

culture and climate measurement

equip yourself to confidently lead the process

character-focused athletes and coaches

affirm women educators’ noble purpose

generate new ideas and share perspectives

just, equitable, and inclusive school culture

lead with a social-emotional foundation

an expert opinion for your building

expertly equip your future teacher leaders

schools dedicated to service learning

develop a chief character officer for your district

educators beyond the classroom
INTENTION
To improve overall school culture and climate, as well as increase academic achievement and decrease disciplinary incidents, regardless of a school’s geographic, socio-economic, or demographic profile.

OVERVIEW
This CASEL-endorsed, evidence-based process’s power and sustainability rests in its framework, which emphasizes core values and implementation unique to the school community. By using data for ongoing assessment, monitoring, and refinement, a comprehensive and sustainable process is created.

OUTCOME
Schools that complete The CharacterPlus Way process show higher test scores and academic performance while decreasing disciplinary incidents. School culture and climate improves, relationships are strengthened, and belonging takes a front seat. Additionally, many schools are ready to go through the Schools of Character recognition process after implementation.

START
Contact CharacterPlus Director of Programming, Nicole Diehl, at ndiehl@characterplus.org to begin the conversation on the goals you are seeking to accomplish for your educators, students, and school culture and climate.
CharacterPlus Way® is an evidence-based process developed by CharacterPlus to transform school climate, increase academic achievement, and reduce behavior referrals. The three-year process was the focus of a federally funded study, and the successful results led to CharacterPlus Way being listed as a Promising Program with CASEL. Results reflect that the CharacterPlus Way is a compelling process that significantly impacts school culture, resulting in healthier schools. Results further indicated an improved school environment where students are engaged in more positive pro-social behavior with a significant reduction in discipline referrals and increases in achievement.

Customized on-site coaching and consultation services are at the core of the process. This allows schools to address their specific issues at a pace that works for their staff and students, ultimately leading to whole-school transformation. CharacterPlus Way process schools include early childhood, elementary, middle, and high schools.

CharacterPlus Way federal research grants provided data that showed when implemented with fidelity:
- staff morale was higher
- staff possessed a strong sense of purpose
- staff and students enjoyed a higher level of administrative support
- more students scored at proficient or advanced on state assessment tests
- students demonstrated healthier prosocial behavior
- school safety improved
- fewer student behavior office referrals occurred
- students felt greater feelings of belonging and autonomy
- and students were more likely to view the school as a community

Over the last three decades of positively impacting school culture and climate, CharacterPlus has become an evidence-based leader in assessing the critical factors that lead to great schools. Our Qualtrics-based annual cSurvey provides the quantitative measurements needed to shape the CharacterPlus Way process.

Promising CASEL SEL Program
Designation Indicating
Improved SEL skills and attitudes and improved teaching practices
To provide expert training and resources in character education to educators in the beginning of their career, and to inspire and equip them as teacher-leaders with best practices and methods for social, emotional, and character development for students.

TACE is a year-long cohort led by experts in the field of SEL & Character Development. It will include the following topics: Understanding Self & Others; The ABCs (Autonomy, Belonging, Competence) of Character; History & Frameworks; Class Meetings & Structures; Self-Care & Mindfulness; Positive Relationships; Classroom Management; Trauma, Diversity, Equity, & Bias Awareness; Curriculum Integration; Building Effective Communication with Parents & Coworkers; & Student Empowerment.

The outcome of this academy is to equip teachers to live their noble purpose by understanding the importance of character education, while also lowering teacher turnover and increasing job satisfaction.

Contact Dr. Julie Sperry, Director of CharacterPlus Program Expansion and Innovation, at jsperry@characterplus.org, or visit us online at CharacterPlus.org for specific information and registration.
THE TEACHER ACADEMY IN CHARACTER EDUCATION

MISSION
To equip early-career teachers with the knowledge, experiences, and tools to build positive character and culture for self and others in their school community.

"this work reinforces how important character is for students"
"this program gives me the motivation and resources to be my best self for students"
"this academy has helped my students' engagement in the classroom go through the roof"
"this academy helps me see and build on the wonderful small things about my students I would not have noticed before"

GOAL
To increase academic student success, decrease referrals, reduce teacher turnover.

PURPOSE
The first? To inspire a personal commitment to social, emotional, and character development as a teacher in order to best live the noble purpose all educators share. The second? To equip teachers with character development best practices and evidence-based methods for building positive character skills in students.

TO LEARN MORE OR APPLY, PLEASE VISIT CharacterPlus.org/Tace or email jsperry@characterplus.org
Every educator deserves access to high-quality character education professional development. CharacterPlus partners have access to a wide variety of free online programming. iCharacterPlus provides the opportunity for educators to grow in their knowledge of why character education is important, as well as the best practices to put in place.

Content is focused on relevant topics around social, emotional, and character development. Every educator in your district can now achieve Foundational Certification in Character Education, learn how to conduct Class Meetings, or develop a deeper understanding of the ABCs. iCharacterPlus modules are self-paced and can be utilized individually, with a PLC/grade-level/content team, or for a faculty meeting.

Our goal is resolute: helping students and staff in our partner districts build the character they need to flourish. Access to this kind of professional development paves the way for classrooms and schools of character to be built.
As a CharacterPlus partner school district you have free access to all CharacterPlus® programming on our online platform called iCharacterPlus. Your access code, available through your District Leader or principal, will discount your course fee to zero. Not a partner? Contact us to learn more about how to access this unique and proven character education resource.

Online Resources Include -

- Foundational Certification in Character Education
- The ABCs of Character
- The Community-Building Series
- Intrinsic Motivation Resources
- The Multicultural Classroom
- The Encouragement Series
- Schools of Character
- Class Meetings

Content is focused on relevant topics in the area of social, emotional, and character development. Hosted on our Teach:able platform, the training modules are self-paced and can be utilized individually, for a PLC/grade-level/content team, or for a faculty meeting.

We remain committed to the human interaction you’ve come to expect and appreciate. In line with that commitment, some of the online modules will have built-in opportunities for interaction/feedback with CharacterPlus staff.

REQUEST OR LEARN MORE - VISIT WWW.CHARACTERPLUS.TEACHABLE.COM

QUESTIONS? CONTACT NICOLE DIEHL, DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMMING - NDIEHL@CHARACTERPLUS.ORG

CharacterPlus | 2025 Craigshire Road | Suite 150 | St. Louis, MO 63146 | 314.665.1292 | www.characterplus.org | 501(c)(3)
INTENTION

This workshop provides the instruction needed to create a solid foundation around the basic tenets of character education. Designed to be used by any staff member at your school, this course will provide the why and how of character education.

OVERVIEW

This self-paced online workshop is led by experts in the field of character education and includes: history and theory of character education; framework for effective character education; building a learning community based on autonomy, belonging, and competence; and best practices in effective character education.

OUTCOME

Participants will receive CharacterPlus Foundational Certification upon completion of this workshop, indicating their foundational understanding of Character Education and the ability to implement best practices.

START

This Foundational Certification workshop is offered online at iCharacterPlus. Please contact Nicole Diehl, CharacterPlus Director of Programming, at ndiehl@characterplus.org for more information.
Foundational Certification in character education

This workshop will provide the instruction needed to create a solid foundation around the basic tenets of character education. Designed to be used by any staff member at your school, this course will give them the why and how of character education.

A Character Education Head Start
- Local Character Education History
- The ABCs of Character
- The 11 Principles Framework
- Class Meetings
- Intrinsic Motivation
- Building Positive Relationships
- Curriculum Integration

"This online workshop allowed many people that wouldn’t have been able to attend an in-person training to complete a course that is valuable to every person."

"I enjoyed the layout of the course and how it was broken into easy-to-manage chunks for my schedule. It was very informational and had me reflecting on my own work in the classroom. It got me thinking and wanting to do better for my own students."

"I love that it is at your own pace. As a full-time student, mom of 3, and working full-time, I loved that I could come and go without feeling like I was going to miss something, or that I would have to sit for hours at a time!"

The Foundational Certification process includes:
- Asynchronous online modules with built-in assignments
- Course includes approximately 8-10 hours of self-paced work
- Real classroom examples of implementation
- Feedback on your workbook and a certificate of completion sent via email

Pricing

Foundational Certification in Character Education is part of iCharacterPlus for partners. For personalized workshops, a quote can be emailed to you.
To help administrators in their quest to better understand where excellence can be attained in their school or district, CharacterPlus is now offering our Qualtrics-based Culture and Climate Survey platform. The cSURVEY questions are age/participant appropriate and thoughtfully brief. Participation rates are high on our mobile-friendly platform, and all responses are collected anonymously. The CharacterPlus results report allows a school team to easily see gaps in perceptions between all stakeholder groups surveyed: students (third grade and up), staff, and parents/guardians.

The cSURVEY questions will give you clear visibility to the following climate and culture categories in your school:

- Feelings of Belonging
- Sense of School as Community
- Sense of Autonomy and Influence
- Sense of Competence
- Sense of School Safety
- Parents’ Involvement at Home
- Parents’ Involvement at School
- Student Engagement

Contact CharacterPlus Director of Programming, Nicole Diehl, at ndiehl@characterplus.org to begin the conversation on the goals you are seeking to accomplish for your educators, students, and school culture and climate.
Over the last three decades of positively impacting school culture and climate, CharacterPlus has become an evidence-based leader in assessing the critical factors that lead to great schools. CharacterPlus is now offering our Qualtrics-based Culture and Climate Survey platform to administrators in their quest to better understand where excellence can be attained in their school or district.

Our cSurvey is MSIP6 aligned for Missouri Schools!

The school report includes a separate page that isolates the three essential items LEAs must ask their stakeholders:

- The school system assures student voices are heard and respected.
- The school system provides school culture and climate data and reports periodically to all stakeholders.
- Educator teams address positive classroom learning environments.

No biometric information is surveyed.

**cSURVEY** questions are age/participant appropriate and collected anonymously. The results report allows a school team to easily see gaps in perceptions between all stakeholder groups surveyed: students (third grade and up), staff, and parents/guardians.

These categories are:
- Feelings of Belonging
- Sense of School as Community
- Sense of Autonomy and Influence
- Sense of Competence
- Sense of School Safety
- Parents’ Involvement at Home
- Parents’ Involvement at School
- Student Engagement

**cSURVEY** & RESULTS ($750)
- Survey Consult and Setup
- School-Specific Password
- Personalized with School Name
- Mobile Survey Access
- Key Indicators Report
- Data Protocol for Processing Results

**cSURVEY, RESULTS, & SUPPORT** ($950)
- Complete $750 Program Plus
- Two Hours via Zoom
  - Data Interpretation
  - Coaching/Next Steps

**cSURVEY** data is strictly private for school use. CharacterPlus does not share or make results available to any outside party.

For questions or to set up your **cSURVEY**, please contact Nicole Diehl, Director of Programming, at ndiehl@characterplus.org
The Schools of Character application process begins with a rigorous self-evaluation and the creation of a portfolio demonstrating a school’s character education implementation. This process can at first seem daunting; however, we believe it has the potential to be the most valuable professional development your school has ever done.

Workshops are offered in the summer and fall to equip schools with the knowledge to confidently apply for Schools of Character. The workshop is an overview of the application process, including best practices in creating a strong portfolio. This session is also available online at iCharacterPlus. There are also opportunities for schools who have been through the process to mentor applicants.

School teams feel empowered to confidently lead their school through the Schools of Character process.

Contact CharacterPlus Director of Programming, Nicole Diehl, at ndiehl@characterplus.org to learn more.
As the Missouri affiliate for the Character.org Schools of Character certification, CharacterPlus guides school leaders through the application and manages the evaluation process, which includes a site visit and a detailed feedback report.

The School of Character Application process evaluates the fidelity of the implementation of *The 11 Principles of Character Education*. This includes demonstrating competence in areas such as:

- Embedding **comprehensive, intentional, and proactive** strategies that promote core ethical and performance values
- **Fostering** self-motivation and providing opportunities for moral action
- Offering a **meaningful and challenging** academic curriculum for all learners
- Fostering **shared** leadership among staff and building long-range support of character education

Everything you need to know

*Schools of Character Process Overview*  
*Application Writing Mentors*  
*Promising Practices Information*  
*Application Best Practices*

Learn more - visit www.characterplus.org/stateschoolsofcharacter

Questions? Contact Nicole Diehl, Director of Programming - ndiehl@characterplus.org
CharacterPlus has adapted its ABCs process for creating Autonomy (voice and choice), Belonging (being a valued part of a community), and Competence (knowing you can do what’s expected of you) for college and high school coaches and their athletes. AthLEADers from each school will become aware of and hone their own virtue and character strengths and leadership potential to help their team thrive and succeed.

The AthLEADership Academy in Character Education (AACE) provides character education skill-building for NCAA and high school athletes. Annually, each participating university, college, or high school selects two student-athletes from every sport to attend AACE training, allowing them to become AthLEADers.

Athletes and coaches gain an awareness of the relationship hurdles impeding high performance team culture. Participant athletes reflect the personal commitment outcomes we at CharacterPlus love to see - athletes feeling valued (free of bias), team culture where everyone belongs (welcomed regardless), and empowering leadership (voices heard, ideas appreciated).

Contact Todd Moeller, Director, Athleadership Academy in Character Education (AACE), at tmoeller@characterplus.org.
Born from CharacterPlus's work with the NCAA, the High School Athleadership Academy in Character Education (AACE) provides character education skill-building for secondary school athletes. CharacterPlus has adapted its K-12 evidence-based process for creating Autonomy (voice and choice), Belonging (being part of a community), and Competence (the ability to do something successfully) for high school coaches and their athletes. Annually, each participating high school selects student-athletes from every sport to attend AACE training in order to become AACE Character Ambassadors.

**AACE GRADUATES WILL GAIN:**

- Understanding self as a leader:
  - Core values, noble purpose, relationship building

- A team where athletes are:
  - empowered, competent, and feel like they belong

- Collaboration with leadership team and coaches

- Stronger relationships and understanding the positive virtues of intrinsic motivation

**Customized to Your School or AACE Program Below**

- 3 Two-Hour Sessions (Fall, Winter, Spring)
- Coaches Training (Virtual Asynchronous)
- Up to 45 Athleaders per session
- $3,750 per High School

**Dates Determined in Coordination with Coaches**

**Guidelines/Suggestions Provided to ADs Each Season**

(AD to meet with Fall Sports, Winter Sports, and Spring Sports during season to highlight implementation of AACE programming)

**What NCAA athletes and coaches say about AACE's impact:**

"we are a more unified family"

"we are creating competitive and passionate athletes who also have extraordinary character on and off the field"

"this gives coaches the opportunity to work on being a transformational versus a transactional coach, which is often the default"

**AACE TEAM OUTCOMES INCLUDE:**

- athletes feeling valued
- a sense of belonging for teammates
- team culture that actively includes athlete's voice
- model student-athlete leaders who make a positive impact on their teams, schools, and fans

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**Todd Moeller**

AD, O'Fallon HS (retired)

Director | AACE
tmoeller@characterplus.org

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**APPLY OR LEARN MORE - VISIT www.characterplus.org/aacehighschool**

**QUESTIONS? CONTACT TODD MOELLER, AACE DIRECTOR, CHARACTERPLUS - TMOELLER@characterplus.org**

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CHARACTER GOES THE DISTANCE

INTENTION

Designed for trailblazing women administrators, CharacterPlus has assembled a selection of the region’s most notable and successful businesswomen and social change leaders who have lived their noble purpose with character as their foundation.

OVERVIEW

At the Table is a series of four evenings for regional women leaders in education, who will be inspired to walk in their noble purpose and lead with character through thought-provoking conversations with women leaders in the community. Each evening will take place at a different local restaurant, and your registration fee will include dinner.

OUTCOME

Experience the positive possibilities that happen when you understand and live your noble purpose through a commitment to character.

START

Contact Dr. Kristen Pelster, Chief Programming Officer, at kpelster@characterplus.org for more information.
Four evenings designed to empower & inspire trailblazing women educators as noble women leaders share how positive character anchors a purpose-driven life. Each event includes appetizers, dinner, dessert, and heartening messages of breaking barriers through leadership and courage.

Previous Speakers Included.....

Michelle Li
Cohost of “Today in St. Louis” on KSDK Channel 5

Amy Shaw
President and CEO, Nine PBS

Dr. Sharonica Hardin-Bartley
Superintendent of The School District of University City

Dr. Donna Jahnke
SLU Assistant Professor in Educational Leadership

Judi Bertels
CEO, African Visions of Hope

Jackie Yoon
CEO & Managing Principal at BLACKGEM ADVISORS

Dr. Akberet Boykin-Farr
Vice President, Diversity and Social Responsibility, Emerson

This Leadership Series will consist of four separate dinner events throughout the year, which will be held at different dining venues throughout the region.

Each evening will be centered around the message from an influential woman leader who will share her story of the power of leading with and on purpose.

As an At the Table participant, you will grow your PLN and extend your own thinking around the power of being a woman who leads with purpose to impact those you serve.

We are excited to create the space for women leaders like you to continue to stretch your thinking, grow in leadership, and be intentional about leading with purpose at the front and center.

$200 FOR THE FOUR-EVENT SERIES. SPACE IS LIMITED TO 50 PARTICIPANTS. REGISTER NOW!

Register at https://www.characterplus.org/athtable

Questions? Contact Dr. Kristen Pelster, Chief Programming Officer, at kpelster@characterplus.org
The CharacterPlus District Training Series ensures that partners have access to thought leaders in Character Education, School Climate, and Social Emotional Development. This series makes it possible for partner districts to experience a variety of professional development offerings and to share learning experiences among districts.

Each partner district has access to four training sessions per year as part of CharacterPlus partnership. Topics for sessions are chosen by the District Leaders’ Council according to their collective needs.

High-quality professional development makes character education and school climate initiatives possible. Whether foundational character education concepts or innovations in the field, these one-day workshops are designed for districts with information and tools that can be used to deepen practice.

Contact Roxanna Mechem, Ed.S., Director of District and Community Partnerships, at rmechem@characterplus.org to learn more.
District Training Series
Workshops

CharacterPlus partner districts understand that regular professional development is necessary to generate new ideas and perspectives, build confidence of educators, create a network of support, and develop a staff skilled in character education implementation strategies. High-quality professional development makes character education and school climate initiatives possible.

The CharacterPlus District Training Series makes it possible for partner districts to experience a variety of professional development offerings and to share learning experiences among districts.

Topics for sessions are chosen by the District Leaders’ Council according to their collective needs. Whether foundational character education concepts or innovations in the field, these one-day workshops are designed to equip districts with information and tools that can be used to deepen practice.

This ongoing regional commitment to character education training improves the school experience for teachers, students, and families.

November 8, 2023 - Workshop 1
December 13, 2023 - Workshop 2
February 7, 2024 - Workshop 3
April 17, 2024 - Workshop 4

CharacterPlus®

APPLY OR LEARN MORE - VISIT WWW.CHARACTERPLUS.ORG/DLACE

CONTACT ROXANNA MECHEM, DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS - RMECHEM@CHARACTERPLUS.ORG

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INTENTION

Many marginalized groups of people experience culture and identity stress, which impacts their health and emotional well-being. The Equity and Justice Academy in Character Education (EJACE) aims to change this in St. Louis schools by bringing school staff and students together to develop a mission, vision, values, practices, and narrative that foster a positive impact, thus breaking long-held biases and systemic intolerant attitudes.

OVERVIEW

EJACE is a year-long cohort experience designed to get at the core of what is fundamental for the well-being and success of all. Each school will bring a 4-person team of staff (including the principal). We will look at elements of school culture through the lens of equity and justice, resulting in a journey to create communities where each child, family, and staff member feels safe, welcomed, included, and valued.

OUTCOME

Through a shared purpose and clear vision, the Academy will focus on changing the narrative through examining the following elements: telling our story (Narrative); where are we going and how are we getting there? (Mission, Vision, Values); who are we? (People); where/what are we? (Place); how do we do what we do? (Practices).

START

Contact Dr. Grace Lee, EJACE Director, at glee@characterplus.org, or visit us online at CharacterPlus.org for specific information and registration.
EJACE's mission is to ensure a just, equitable, and inclusive school culture. EJACE helps administrators, staff, and students identify and develop mission and vision, values, people, practices, place, and narrative that will reduce the negative impact of inherent bias, social insensitivity, prejudices, and systematic intolerance.

EJACE is a year-long experience in leadership growth and development through the Equity and Justice lens. Each school will bring a team of four staff members, including the building principal. There will be a separate but coordinated student leader training series that occurs at the school site.

EJACE offers a thoughtful assessment and opportunities to create a building-wide inclusive climate and culture through five introspective stages by building autonomy, belonging, competence, and dignity.

- **EJACE FEE $3000**

**2023-2024 DATES**

**PRINCIPAL IMMERSION TRIP**  •  JUNE 27 - 30, 2023

**SESSION DAYS**

- September 28, 2023
- October 19, 2023 (principal’s meeting)
- November 2, 2023
- December 7, 2023
- February 8, 2024
- April 11, 2024
- May 9, 2024 showcase

QUESTIONS? CONTACT
DR. GRACE LEE, EJACE DIRECTOR
GLEE@CHARACTERPLUS.ORG

LEARN MORE - VISIT WWW.CHARACTERPLUS.ORG/EJACE

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INTENTION

To help leaders understand that effective leadership is an essential factor in ensuring all members of a school community achieve at their highest potential. Leaders who humbly seek to understand themselves first are able to intentionally create a culture where their community members thrive.

OVERVIEW

Participants will engage in a variety of leadership experiences that will result in creating a new cultural foundation for their school. Participants will be ready to apply and integrate relevant SEL learning and practical applications into their schools to qualitatively make a positive impact on all stakeholders.

OUTCOME

Participants will develop the capacity to be their best self in order to create thriving school communities. They will build an awareness of the power of capacity mapping, future planning, and SEL in order to affect change. They will bridge the gap between awareness and intentionality into action by cultivating a culture of character (SEL-aligned) and connect learning to evidence-based character and SEL frameworks.

START

Contact Dr. Julie Sperry, Director of CharacterPlus Program Expansion and Innovation, at jsperry@characterplus.org, or visit us online at CharacterPlus.org for specific information and registration.
Informed by research in adult learning theory, and combined with Socio-Emotional and Character principles, SELf graduates will:

- Increase their capacity to be their best self in order to serve students, school, and community.
- Internalize Autonomy, Belonging, Competence, and Dignity and understand their impact in creating thriving school communities.
- Embrace leading change effectively by understanding self and others.
- Experience best practices in character education.
- Build an awareness of the power of capacity mapping, future planning, and SEL in order to affect change.
- Engage in experiential and problem-based learning to help bridge the gap between awareness and intentionality to action by cultivating a culture of character (SEL-Aligned) in a school/district.
- Connect learning to evidence-based character and SEL frameworks.

THE IDEAL SELf PARTICIPANT
Superintendent
Assistant Superintendent
Principal
Director
SEL Program Coordinator
Counselor
Social Worker

HEAR FROM EDUCATORS!

"I come in feeling disconnected and always leave feeling empowered."

"The activities have a clear purpose and lead to such great dialogue."

"I wish every educator and student could experience SELf!"

"SELf is a perfect mix of information and hands-on practice."

"I enjoyed every moment!"

FALL COHORT
8:30 am to 3:30 pm
October 4, 2023
November 14, 2023
December 14, 2023
January 11, 2023

SPPRING COHORT
8:30 am to 3:30 pm
January 16, 2024
February 21, 2024
April 9, 2024
May 7, 2024

Only 25 Openings
ENROLL NOW!
Join colleagues in the Greater St. Louis Region for this amazing leadership opportunity.
characterplus.org/self
SELf fee $750

APPLY OR LEARN MORE - VISIT WWW.CHARACTERPLUS.ORG/SELF

QUESTIONS? CONTACT DR. JULIE SPETTY, DIRECTOR OF PROGRAM EXPANSION & INNOVATION - JSPERRY@CHARACTERPLUS.ORG
CharacterPlus | 2025 Craigshire Road | Suite 150 | St. Louis, MO 63146 | 314.665.1292 | www.characterplus.org | 501(c)(3)
INTENTION

We are often asked by schools how they know if they are ready to apply for Schools of Character recognition. We created a tool called the c2Audit, which is based on our years of experience helping schools transform their culture and climate.

OVERVIEW

A consultant from our programming team will spend approximately three hours at your school during a typical day. They will tour the building and meet with the administration and/or the culture and climate team to learn about the level of character education implementation in the school.

OUTCOME

This process will create a list of implementation possibilities aligned with the requirements of the School of Character framework, as well as a recommendation regarding the school’s timing for applying to Schools of Character.

START

Contact Nicole Diehl, CharacterPlus Director of Programming, at ndiehl@characterplus.org to schedule your assessment or for more information.
We are often asked by schools if we have a general assessment of how aligned their practices are with the 11 Principles, or if there are key components missing before they apply for Schools of Character recognition. The c2Audit is based on our years of experience helping schools transform their culture and climate.

CharacterPlus c2Audit -
A consultant from our programming team will spend approximately three hours at your school during a typical school day. They will tour the building and meet with the administration and/or culture and climate team to learn about the level of character education implementation in the school.

“This was one of the best assessments we have ever done, and it has provoked great conversations about what we can continue to improve upon! It’s definitely impacting and guiding our goals for the future, too.”

Dr. Lorinda Krey, Principal

REQUEST OR LEARN MORE - VISIT WWW.CHARACTERPLUS.ORG/C2AUDIT

QUESTIONS? CONTACT NICOLE DIEHL, DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMMING - NDIEHL@CHARACTERPLUS.ORG

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INTENTION

The goal of vTACE is to provide expert training and resources in character education to educators in the beginning of their career, and inspire and equip them as teacher-leaders with best practices and methods for social, emotional, and character development for students. vTACE will be highly interactive and personally engaging. vTACE is a LIVE SYNCHRONOUS EXPERIENCE on ZOOM.

OVERVIEW

vTACE is a year-long cohort led by experts in the field of Character Development. It will include the following topics: Understanding Self & Others; The ABC’s (Autonomy, Belonging, Competence) of Character; History & Frameworks; Class Meetings & Structures; Self-Care & Mindfulness; Positive Relationships; Classroom Management; Trauma, Diversity, Equity, & Bias Awareness; Curriculum Integration; Building Effective Communication with Parents & Coworkers; & Student Empowerment.

OUTCOME

The outcome of this academy is to equip teachers to live their noble purpose by understanding the importance of character education, while also lowering teacher turnover and increasing job satisfaction.

START

Contact Dr. Rene Sommers, Director of vTACE, at rsommers@characterplus.org, or visit us online at CharacterPlus.org for specific information and registration.
MISSION
To equip early-career teachers with the knowledge, experiences, and tools to build positive character and culture for self and others in their school community.

"this work reinforces how important character is for students"

"this program gives me the motivation and resources to be my best self for students"

"this academy has helped my students’ engagement in the classroom go through the roof"

"this academy helps me see and build on the wonderful small things about my students I would not have noticed before"

GOAL
To increase academic student success, decrease referrals, reduce teacher turnover, and increase job satisfaction.

PURPOSE
The first? To inspire a personal commitment to social, emotional, and character development as a teacher in order to best live the noble purpose all educators share. The second? To equip teachers with character development best practices and evidence-based methods for building positive character skills in students.

VIRTUAL PROMISE
vTACE will be highly interactive and personally engaging. Each session is led by scholars who facilitate collaborative learning and provide real-life applications. vTACE is a LIVE SYNCHRONOUS EXPERIENCE on ZOOM.

TO LEARN MORE OR APPLY, PLEASE VISIT
CharacterPlus.org/vTace or email rsommers@characterplus.org

DATES
09.21.23
11.09.23
01.17.24
03.08.24
05.09.24
06.05.24*

*graduation showcase
Champions for Character raises awareness about the value of school-wide Service Learning.

Cardinals Care has sponsored the Champions for Character Service Learning recognition program in cooperation with CharacterPlus since 2004. The program goal is to increase awareness of the benefits of service learning, and encourage schools to move from one-time service projects to more long-term, school-wide service learning. The recognition program honors three schools in the metro area that have a school-wide ethos of service learning.

The three recognized schools are honored with tickets to a Cardinals game for members of their school community, a banner, and representation on the field before the game.

Contact CharacterPlus Director of Programming, Nicole Diehl, at ndiehl@characterplus.org to learn more.
Champions for CHARACTER

Cardinals Care has sponsored the Champions for Character Service Learning recognition program in cooperation with CharacterPlus since 2004. The program goal is to increase awareness of the benefits of service learning, and encourage schools to move from one-time service projects to more long-term, school-wide service learning. The recognition program honors three schools in the metro area that have a school-wide ethos of service learning. The school’s service learning must be infused in the curriculum and include student voice and reflection.

Schools are honored with tickets to a Cardinals game for members of their school community, a banner, and representation on the field before the game.

LEARN MORE - VISIT WWW.CHARACTERPLUS.ORG/CHAMPIONSFORCHARACTER

QUESTIONS? CONTACT NICOLE DIEHL, DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMMING- NDIEHL@CHARACTERPLUS.ORG

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INTENTION

dLACE is designed to develop highly competent district-level character education experts (we endearingly call them Chief Character Officers) who will determine best practice implementation, as well as how to advocate and lead character education best practices in a district.

OVERVIEW

Learn to use character education essentials as part of school improvement practices district-wide to ensure a comprehensive, intentional, and proactive approach to student development. dLACE scholars can positively impact academic performance, school culture and climate, referral rates, and teacher job satisfaction. The ideal dLACE scholar is someone who has the ability and is empowered to lead this work in the district.

OUTCOME

The Chief Character Officer will understand character education frameworks and most effective practices in Social Emotional and Character Development. They will also be equipped to administer their survey and interpret the data report, as well as lead implementation in their district.

START

Contact Dr. Kristen Pelster, Chief Programming Officer, at kpelster@characterplus.org for more information.
Learn to use character education essentials as part of school improvement practices district-wide to ensure a comprehensive, intentional, and proactive approach to student development. dlACE scholars can positively impact academic performance, school culture, climate, referral rates, and teacher job satisfaction.

The ideal dlACE scholar is someone who has the ability and is empowered to lead this work in the district.

dlACE GRADUATES WILL:

- Understand character skill-building’s impact on self and others
- Understand character education frameworks
- Understand character education best practice implementation
- Understand how to advocate and lead character education in a district
- Assess the social, emotional, and character strengths and needs of the district
- Lead the implementation process of the culture and climate survey and interpret the data report created
- Lead their district in the implementation of best practices

IN COORDINATION WITH DESE

Training Location: St. Louis
Hotel Expenses Paid
Participant Mileage to St. Louis Reimbursed
$1200 Educator Stipend per District Attending
Character Education Starter Library
iCharacterPlus Online Programming Access
No cost to you! (funded by DESE & CharacterPlus)

THE OVERALL IMPACT OF CHARACTERPLUS HAS SHOWN THESE OUTCOMES:

- Staff morale is higher
- Staff possess a strong sense of purpose
- More students score proficient or advanced on assessment tests
- Students demonstrate healthier prosocial behaviors
- Fewer student behavior office referrals occur
- Students report greater feelings of competence, belonging, and autonomy
- Students are more likely to view the school as a community

October 2, 2023, St. Louis - Session 1
November 6, 2023, St. Louis - Session 2
January 22, 2024, St. Louis - Session 3
Session 4 - February 26, 2024, St. Louis
Session 5 - February 27, 2024, St. Louis
Session 6 - April 29, 2024, St. Louis

CharacterPlus

APPLY OR LEARN MORE - VISIT WWW.CHARACTERPLUS.ORG/DLACE

QUESTIONS? CONTACT DR. KRISTEN PELSTER, CHIEF PROGRAMMING OFFICER - KPELSTER@CHARACTERPLUS.ORG

CharacterPlus | 2025 Craigshire Road | Suite 150 | St. Louis, MO 63146 | 314.665.1292 | www.characterplus.org | 501(c)(3)
Ensure your school thrives with every interaction by building positive character, social, and emotional skills with your educators beyond the classroom. Create stronger bonds and a sense of belonging for all support staff in your school by giving them the tools to strengthen relationships on buses, in the lunchroom, and throughout the building.

For hundreds of children in your school district, their bus driver, custodial staff, lunchroom team, before-school care, nurse, para-professionals, and administrative assistants are the first educators they interact with as they begin their school day. As a result, your school’s character initiative is put in motion long before students enter the classroom.

Outcomes include an increased sense of belonging and safety in every school setting for students, an in-depth understanding of why each staff member matters in this effort, and positive relationships being forged even in the micro-moment interactions found between students and members of your support staff.

Contact Lynn Clapp, Director of Culture Carriers, at lclapp@characterplus.org to learn more.
educators beyond the classroom

For hundreds of children in your school district, their bus driver, custodial staff, lunchroom team, before-school care, nurse, para-professionals, and administrative assistants are the first educators they interact with as they begin their school day. As a result, your school’s character initiative is put in motion long before students enter the classroom. Ensure your school thrives with every interaction with Culture Carriers by CharacterPlus. Build positive character, social, and emotional skills with your educators beyond the classroom.

Cc will help your school community by:

○ Creating stronger bonds and a sense of belonging for all support staff in your school

○ Giving bus drivers and all support staff the tools to strengthen relationships on buses, in the lunchroom, and throughout the building

○ Providing students an increased sense of belonging and safety in every school setting

○ Building an in-depth understanding of why each staff member matters in this effort, and how their actions and words strengthen school climate and culture

○ Sharing real-world examples of how students view all adults in their school community as role models

○ Developing a keen understanding of how positive relationships can be forged even in the micro-moment interactions found between student and members of your support staff

CharacterPlus®

REQUEST OR LEARN MORE - VISIT WWW.CHARACTERPLUS.ORG/CULTURECARRIERS

QUESTIONS? CONTACT LYNN CLAPP, DIRECTOR OF CULTURE CARRIERS - LCLAPP@CHARACTERPLUS.ORG

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