

TRUST.US BE.TRANSPARENT LISTEN  
ERS.LEAD LISTEN.AUTHENTICALLY  
SHOW.GRATITUDE SOLICIT.INPUT  
HAVE.OUR.BACKS BE.REAL.WITH.US  
CHEER.ON.MY.CREATIVITY SHARE.L  
OPLE.BEFORE.POLICIES INVOLVE.US  
SAFETY.BELONGING.EQUITY SET.HIC  
ONGOING.MENTORSHIP BE.REAL.W  
CHEER.ON.MY.CREATIVITY CULTUR  
SHARI LISTE  
CULT LE.BE  
ASSION UILD.C  
LISTEN.WITHOUT.JUDGEMENT LET.  
SET.HIGH.EXPECTATIONS USE.DATA  
ESS.TO.CHANGE CURRICULUM.ART  
EMOTIONAL.NEEDS REALISTIC.TAR  
NAGE.STRATEGICALLY ENCOURAGE  
SHIPS BUILD.COMPASSIONATE.RELA  
AUTHENTICALLY ENCOURAGES.FAM  
TRUST.ME MEANINGFUL.INSPIRATI  
BEING.CARED.FOR INSPIRE.PEOPLE  
NEVER.UNDERESTIMATE.THANKYOU

# CharacterPlus

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+



# IMPACTED

Natasha Payne, Roosevelt High,  
SLPS Math Teacher of the Year  
TACE Graduate

Mike Roth, AD, Parkway (Retired)  
2022 MIAAA Athletic  
Director of the Year

Dr. Jean Meyer, Superintendent,  
Couch R-1 School District  
Myrtle, Missouri

Lindsay Corsale, Mason Ridge  
Elementary, Parkway Elementary  
Teacher of the Year  
TACE Graduate

Dr. Denise Funston, Principal,  
Windsor Elementary School

Dr. Lorinda Krey, Principal,  
Fairway Elementary School

Dr. Karen Calcaterra, Principal,  
Lafayette High School

# PARTNERS

*"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."*

*"AACE encompasses every positive aspect that high school athletics should be. And, I believe that AACE helps our young student-athletes develop the life-long positive leadership traits they need for success."*

*"I leave dLACE each time with new understandings and ideas that fit perfectly into the direction we hope to move. I feel like we can implement successful change with regard to character education and not have it be "just one more thing."*

*"It was incredibly energizing to be around educators who are SO invested in character education and working with children!!...thank you very much for your work and for sharing your expertise! Yesterday was the BEST professional development I've experienced in years!!!"*

*"...the narrative must be shifted: character education isn't just one more thing on your plate as a leader, IT IS the plate..."*

*"The c2audit 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!"*

*"...social emotional learning, restorative practices...the BEAUTIFUL THING about character education is that it incorporates all of that..."*

# THE

# TEAM

## Mike Park

*CharacterPlus® CEO, LACE Academy, The U.S. Army Intelligence Center & School, Wharton School Executive Program, University of Alabama, Center for Character & Citizenship, Affiliate Scholar, & Brand-P Principal, [mike@characterplus.org](mailto:mike@characterplus.org)*

## Nicole Diehl

*CharacterPlus® Director of Programming, Leading the nation in schools coached that have become State & National Schools of Character, Instructor, CharacterPlus Way Director, [ndiehl@characterplus.org](mailto:ndiehl@characterplus.org)*

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*Lead Scholar Advisor, Sanford N. McDonnell Professor of Character Education, UM Thomas Jefferson Fellow, Professor UMSL, Co-Founder The Center for Character & Citizenship*

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*Scholar Advisor, Co-Director of the Center for Character & Citizenship, Senior Research Fellow Division of Educational Psychology, Evaluation & Research, College of Education UMSL*

## Michael Barolak, MSW

*CharacterPlus® EJACE and SELf Team, Retired Director of Social Emotional Support Services at Parkway Schools, School Social Worker, [mbarolak@characterplus.org](mailto:mbarolak@characterplus.org)*

## Kristen Pelster, Ed.D.

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## Julie Sperry, Ed.D.

*CharacterPlus® Director of Program Expansion & Innovation, Retired School Administrator, NSOC recipient, Consultant for Center for Character and Citizenship, MA in Administration & Secondary Counseling, [jsperry@characterplus.org](mailto:jsperry@characterplus.org)*

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## Todd Moeller, AD

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*CharacterPlus® AACE Team, Retired Superintendent at Belleville District 118, Character Education in Emerging Leaders (CEEL) Consultant, [mklosterman@characterplus.org](mailto:mklosterman@characterplus.org)*

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## Lynn Clapp, M.S.

*CharacterPlus® Director of Culture Carriers, Retired School Psychologist and District Administrator at Belleville District 118, Vertical Performance Coach, [lclapp@characterplus.org](mailto:lclapp@characterplus.org)*

## Claudia McMillin, M.B.A.

*CharacterPlus® Finance Manager Glenmon Guild, SSM Health, Treasurer, [cmcmillin@characterplus.org](mailto:cmcmillin@characterplus.org)*

## Carol Burcke

*CharacterPlus® Director of Development, Previous Chief Development responsibilities at Rx Outreach and Make-A-Wish Foundation, [cburcke@characterplus.org](mailto:cburcke@characterplus.org)*

## Heather Nadenbush

*Who holds all of this team together ☺  
CharacterPlus® Office Manager, Entrepreneur & Community Volunteer, [hadenbush@characterplus.org](mailto:hadenbush@characterplus.org)*



# PROGRAMS

CHARACTERPLUS WAY

TEACHER ACADEMY IN  
CHARACTER ED (TACE)

iCHARACTERPLUS

FOUNDATIONAL CERTIFICATION  
IN CHARACTER ED

cSURVEY

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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*

# CHARACTER GOES THE DISTANCE

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CULTURE CARRIERS

## 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](mailto: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®**  
programs, workshops, & support



# CharacterPlus Way®

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



Promising CASEL SEL Program  
Designation Indicating  
Improved SEL skills and attitudes and  
improved teaching practices

Student Summary 357 Responses



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.

# CharacterPlus®

REQUEST OR LEARN MORE -VISIT [WWW.CHARACTERPLUS.ORG/CHARACTERPLUSWAY](http://WWW.CHARACTERPLUS.ORG/CHARACTERPLUSWAY)

QUESTIONS? CONTACT NICOLE DIEHL, DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMMING - [NDIEHL@CHARACTERPLUS.ORG](mailto:NDIEHL@CHARACTERPLUS.ORG)

CharacterPlus | 2025 Craigshire Road | Suite 150 | St. Louis, MO 63146 | 314.665.1292 | [www.characterplus.org](http://www.characterplus.org) | 501(c)(3)

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### CULTURE CARRIERS

## INTENTION

*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.*

## OVERVIEW

*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.*

## 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. Julie Sperry, Director of CharacterPlus Program Expansion and Innovation, at [jsperry@characterplus.org](mailto:jsperry@characterplus.org), or visit us online at [CharacterPlus.org](http://CharacterPlus.org) for specific information and registration.*



**CharacterPlus®**  
programs, workshops, & support



FALL '23  
APPLY NOW!  
Characterplus.org/tace

# THE TEACHER ACADEMY

# IN CHARACTER EDUCATION

Fill Your  
Teacher Toolbox  
with Practical  
Strategies to  
Implement  
Immediately

\$1250 Tuition  
Space is Limited

Designed  
for Elementary  
& Secondary  
Teachers

Six (6)  
Sessions Led by  
Top Educators &  
Character Ed  
Experts

## 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](mailto:jsperry@characterplus.org)

TACE  
UNDERSTANDING SELF &  
OTHERS

THE ABCs of CHARACTER  
(AUTONOMY, BELONGING,  
COMPETENCE)

SERVICE LEARNING  
PROJECT

CLASS MEETINGS  
& STRUCTURES

SELF-CARE &  
MINDFULNESS

BUILDING POSITIVE  
RELATIONSHIPS

CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT

TRAUMA, DIVERSITY, EQUITY  
& BIAS AWARENESS

CURRICULUM INTEGRATION

EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION  
WITH PARENTS &  
COWORKERS

## ACADEMY CO-DIRECTORS

JULIE SPERRY, Ed.D.

RENE SOMMERS, Ed.D.



## DATES

Elementary Secondary

09.14.23 09.14.23

11.02.23 11.03.23

01.24.24 01.25.24

03.07.24 03.06.24

05.01.24 04.30.24

06.06.24\* 06.06.24\*

\*\*showcase



register

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CULTURE CARRIERS

## INTENTION

*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.*

## OVERVIEW

*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.*

## OUTCOME

*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.*

## START

*Contact CharacterPlus Director of Programming, Nicole Diehl, at [ndiehl@characterplus.org](mailto:ndiehl@characterplus.org) for your access code and to learn more.*

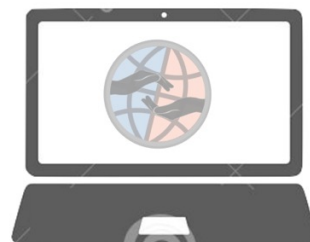
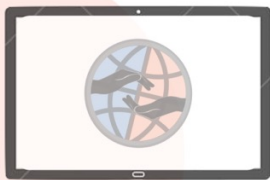


**CharacterPlus<sup>®</sup>**  
programs, workshops, & support





# iCharacterPlus



*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.*

## CharacterPlus

REQUEST OR LEARN MORE - VISIT [WWW.CHARACTERPLUS.TEACHABLE.COM](http://WWW.CHARACTERPLUS.TEACHABLE.COM)

QUESTIONS? CONTACT NICOLE DIEHL, DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMMING - [NDIEHL@CHARACTERPLUS.ORG](mailto:NDIEHL@CHARACTERPLUS.ORG)

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## 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](mailto:ndiehl@characterplus.org) for more information.*



**CharacterPlus<sup>®</sup>**  
programs, workshops, & support





# 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.*

# CharacterPlus

REQUEST OR LEARN MORE - VISIT [WWW.CHARACTERPLUS.ORG/FCICE](http://WWW.CHARACTERPLUS.ORG/FCICE)

QUESTIONS? CONTACT NICOLE DIEHL, DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMMING - [NDIEHL@CHARACTERPLUS.ORG](mailto:NDIEHL@CHARACTERPLUS.ORG)

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## INTENTION

*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.*

## OVERVIEW

*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.*

## OUTCOME

*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*

## START

*Contact CharacterPlus Director of Programming, Nicole Diehl, at [ndiehl@characterplus.org](mailto: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<sup>®</sup>**  
programs, workshops, & support



# cSURVEY

character insights for growth  
by characterplus

## MSIP6

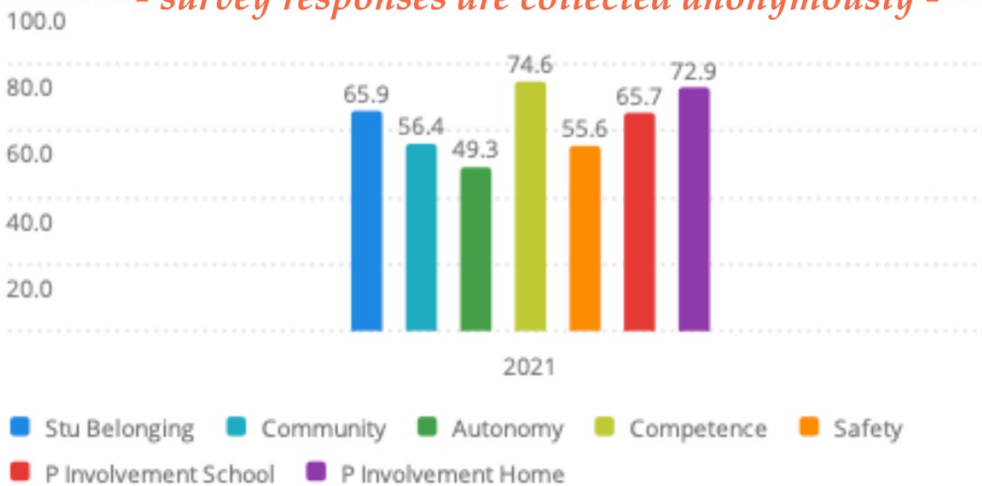
aligned

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.

### Student Summary 357 Responses



- survey responses are collected anonymously -



**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](mailto:ndiehl@characterplus.org)



# CHARACTER GOES THE DISTANCE

CHARACTERPLUS WAY

TEACHER ACADEMY IN  
CHARACTER ED (TACE)

iCHARACTERPLUS

FOUNDATIONAL CERTIFICATION  
IN CHARACTER ED (FCiCE)

cSURVEY

SCHOOLS OF CHARACTER (SOC)  
APPLICATION SUPPORT

ATHLEADERSHIP ACADEMY IN  
CHARACTER ED (AAACE)

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

## INTENTION

*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.*

## OVERVIEW

*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.*

## OUTCOME

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

## START

*Contact CharacterPlus Director of Programming, Nicole Diehl, at [ndiehl@characterplus.org](mailto:ndiehl@characterplus.org) to learn more.*



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programs, workshops, & support

# State Schools of Character



*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*



## CharacterPlus

LEARN MORE - VISIT [WWW.CHARACTERPLUS.ORG/STATESCHOOLSOFCCHARACTER](http://WWW.CHARACTERPLUS.ORG/STATESCHOOLSOFCCHARACTER)

QUESTIONS? CONTACT NICOLE DIEHL, DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMMING - [NDIEHL@CHARACTERPLUS.ORG](mailto:NDIEHL@CHARACTERPLUS.ORG)

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CULTURE CARRIERS

## INTENTION

*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.*

## OVERVIEW

*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.*

## OUTCOME

*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).*

## START

*Contact Todd Moeller, Director, Athleadership Academy in Character Education (AACE), at [tmoeller@characterplus.org](mailto:tmoeller@characterplus.org).*



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programs, workshops, & support



## THE ATHLEADERSHIP ACADEMY IN CHARACTER EDUCATION

by characterplus

Born from CharacterPlus's work with the NCAA, the High School Athleadership Academy in Character Education (AACCE) 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 AACCE training in order to become AACCE 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 AACCE 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 AACCE programming)*



**What NCAA athletes and coaches say about AACCE'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



Todd Moeller  
AD, O'Fallon HS (retired)  
Director | AACCE  
tmoeller@characterplus.org



**APPLY OR LEARN MORE - VISIT [WWW.CHARACTERPLUS.ORG/AACEHIGH SCHOOL](http://WWW.CHARACTERPLUS.ORG/AACEHIGH SCHOOL)**

QUESTIONS? CONTACT TODD MOELLER, AACCE DIRECTOR, CHARACTERPLUS - [TMOELLER@CHARACTERPLUS.ORG](mailto:TMOELLER@CHARACTERPLUS.ORG)

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ASSESSMENTS (C2AUDIT)

VIRTUAL TEACHER ACADEMY IN  
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CHAMPIONS FOR CHARACTER

DISTRICT LEADER ACADEMY  
IN CHARACTER ED (dLACE)

CULTURE CARRIERS

## 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](mailto:kpelster@characterplus.org) for more information.



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# AT THE TABLE

by characterplus

*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



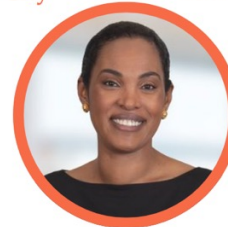
**Judi  
Bertels**

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/atthetable>

Questions? Contact Dr. Kristen Pelster, Chief Programming Officer, at [kpelster@characterplus.org](mailto:kpelster@characterplus.org)



# CHARACTER GOES THE DISTANCE

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### 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

## INTENTION

*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.*

## OVERVIEW

*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.*

## OUTCOME

*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.*

## START

*Contact Roxanna Mechem, Ed.S., Director of District and Community Partnerships, at [rmechem@characterplus.org](mailto: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.



Roxanna Mechem, Ed.S.  
Director of District and Community Partnerships  
rmechem@characterplus.org



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

*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.*

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](http://WWW.CHARACTERPLUS.ORG/DLACE)

CONTACT ROXANNA MECHEM, DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS - [RMECHEM@CHARACTERPLUS.ORG](mailto:rmechem@characterplus.org)

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CULTURE CARRIERS

## 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](mailto:glee@characterplus.org), or visit us online at [CharacterPlus.org](http://CharacterPlus.org) for specific information and registration.

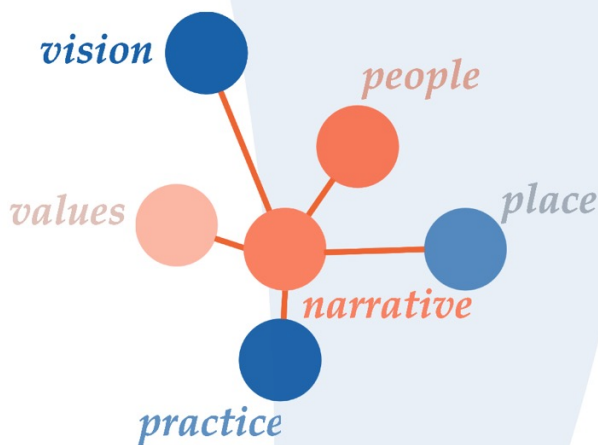


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## *Equity & Justice Academy in Character Education*

*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**

- All stakeholders will know that equity and justice are central to who we are.
- Equity and justice will show up in our mission and vision.
- We will be aware of the written and unwritten values of our school.
- We will address oppressions openly and honestly.
- Our policies will reflect equal access and equity for all stakeholders.
- Our curriculum will be representative of all cultures and will be focused on teaching cultural relevance.
- Our physical space and place will create a feeling of equity and justice for all.

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



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LEARN MORE - VISIT [WWW.CHARACTERPLUS.ORG/EJACE](http://WWW.CHARACTERPLUS.ORG/EJACE)

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CULTURE CARRIERS

## 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](mailto:jsperry@characterplus.org), or visit us online at [CharacterPlus.org](http://CharacterPlus.org) for specific information and registration.










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# SELf

socio-emotional leadership foundations

in character education

*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.

**FALL COHORT**  
8:30 am to 3:30 pm

October 4, 2023  
November 14, 2023  
December 14, 2023  
January 11, 2023



January 16, 2024  
February 21, 2024  
April 9, 2024  
May 7, 2024

**SPRING COHORT**  
8:30 am to 3:30 pm

Only 25 Openings

**ENROLL NOW!**

Join colleagues in the  
Greater St. Louis Region  
for this amazing  
leadership opportunity.  
[characterplus.org/self](http://characterplus.org/self)  
SELf fee \$750

## 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!"*

**CharacterPlus®**

APPLY OR LEARN MORE -VISIT [WWW.CHARACTERPLUS.ORG/SELF](http://WWW.CHARACTERPLUS.ORG/SELF)

QUESTIONS? CONTACT DR. JULIE SPERRY, DIRECTOR OF PROGRAM EXPANSION & INNOVATION - [JSPERRY@CHARACTERPLUS.ORG](mailto:JSPERRY@CHARACTERPLUS.ORG)

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CULTURE CARRIERS

## 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](mailto:ndiehl@characterplus.org) to schedule your assessment or for more information.*



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*school climates and cultures of excellence*

*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.*

belonging

community

connected

empowered

challenged

trusted

### *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 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 next steps for implementation and, if applicable, timing for applying to Schools of Character.

*"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*

# CharacterPlus

REQUEST OR LEARN MORE -VISIT [WWW.CHARACTERPLUS.ORG/C2AUDIT](http://WWW.CHARACTERPLUS.ORG/C2AUDIT)

QUESTIONS? CONTACT NICOLE DIEHL, DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMMING - [NDIEHL@CHARACTERPLUS.ORG](mailto:NDIEHL@CHARACTERPLUS.ORG)

CharacterPlus | 2025 Craigshire Road | Suite 150 | St. Louis, MO 63146 | 314.665.1292 | [www.characterplus.org](http://www.characterplus.org) | 501(c)(3)



# CHARACTER GOES THE DISTANCE

## 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 (AAACE)

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

## 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](mailto:rsommers@characterplus.org), or visit us online at [CharacterPlus.org](https://CharacterPlus.org) for specific information and registration.*



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programs, workshops, & support

FALL '23  
APPLY NOW!  
Characterplus.org/vtace

# the Virtual Teacher Academy

## in Character Education

Fill Your  
Teacher Toolbox  
with Practical  
Strategies to  
Implement  
Immediately

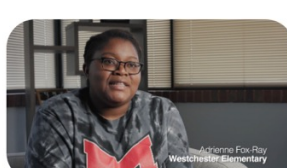
\$1250 Tuition  
Space is Limited

Designed  
for Elementary  
& Secondary  
Teachers

Six (6)  
Sessions Led by  
Top Educators &  
Character Ed  
Experts

### 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](mailto:rsommers@characterplus.org)

vTACE

UNDERSTANDING SELF &  
OTHERS

THE ABCs of CHARACTER  
(AUTONOMY, BELONGING,  
COMPETENCE)

SERVICE LEARNING  
PROJECT

CLASS MEETINGS  
& STRUCTURES

SELF-CARE &  
MINDFULNESS

BUILDING POSITIVE  
RELATIONSHIPS

CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT

TRAUMA, DIVERSITY, EQUITY  
& BIAS AWARENESS

CURRICULUM INTEGRATION

EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION  
WITH PARENTS &  
COWORKERS

ACADEMY DIRECTOR  
RENE SOMMERS, Ed.D.



### DATES

09.21.23

11.09.23

01.17.24

03.08.24

05.09.24

06.05.24\*

\*graduation showcase



register



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DISTRICT LEADER ACADEMY  
IN CHARACTER ED (dLACE)

CULTURE CARRIERS

## INTENTION

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

## OVERVIEW

*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.*

## OUTCOME

*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.*

## START

*Contact CharacterPlus Director of Programming, Nicole Diehl, at [ndiehl@characterplus.org](mailto:ndiehl@characterplus.org) to learn more.*



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programs, workshops, & support

# 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.*

## CharacterPlus

LEARN MORE - VISIT [WWW.CHARACTERPLUS.ORG/CHAMPIONSFORCHARACTER](http://WWW.CHARACTERPLUS.ORG/CHAMPIONSFORCHARACTER)

QUESTIONS? CONTACT NICOLE DIEHL, DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMMING- [NDIEHL@CHARACTERPLUS.ORG](mailto:NDIEHL@CHARACTERPLUS.ORG)

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CULTURE CARRIERS

## 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](mailto:kpelster@characterplus.org) for more information.*



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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.*

2023-2024  
**ENROLL NOW!**

Space is Limited  
Sign Up Your 2-Person Team  
Year-Long Cohort

[characterplus.org/dlace](http://characterplus.org/dlace)

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)

### **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

### **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](http://WWW.CHARACTERPLUS.ORG/DLACE)

QUESTIONS? CONTACT DR. KRISTEN PELSTER, CHIEF PROGRAMMING OFFICER - [KPELSTER@CHARACTERPLUS.ORG](mailto:KPELSTER@CHARACTERPLUS.ORG)

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CULTURE CARRIERS

## INTENTION

*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.*

## OVERVIEW

*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.*

## OUTCOME

*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.*

## START

*Contact Lynn Clapp, Director of Culture Carriers, at [lclapp@characterplus.org](mailto:lclapp@characterplus.org) to learn more.*



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## *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](http://WWW.CHARACTERPLUS.ORG/CULTURECARRIERS)

QUESTIONS? CONTACT LYNN CLAPP, DIRECTOR OF CULTURE CARRIERS - [LCLAPP@CHARACTERPLUS.ORG](mailto:LCLAPP@CHARACTERPLUS.ORG)

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