

# CharacterPlus®

Fall 2021

Close your eyes for a moment and imagine the last year and a half without having strong social, emotional, and character skills. We can't. And we are grateful for all those throughout our lives who've helped us develop those skills. Even in challenging circumstances, in this case, a pandemic, strong social, emotional, and character skills bend us towards good decision-making and positive possibilities. Our mission, more so our calling, is to ensure students and teachers develop and hone those very skills and benefit from the positive possibilities in their lives – academic success, nurturing classrooms, strong relationships, a sense of belonging, and feeling valued.

CharacterPlus has a long tradition of meeting our schools' needs, and your financial gifts make that possible. 2021 has seen all of our academies start off strong. The new school year also brings another record year for schools participating in our three-year evidence-based CharacterPlus Way school culture and climate improvement process. And a new initiative for January is our District Leader Academy in Character Education (dLACE). The District Leader Academy in Character Education is a pilot program to develop senior character education experts in every district across Missouri.



As one of the very few organizations allowed to work in school with educators during this pandemic, as well as school educators being allowed to attend our training speaks volumes about not only the need for our work but our positive impact. We are grateful to be education's vital partner in meeting the social, emotional, and character skill-building needs schools come to rely on for academic success and strong school culture and climate.

We live in a time of unique challenges yet see incredible opportunities to do good things, be better people and help young students thrive. Our work continues to address those opportunities in earnest, and we are grateful that you remain a steadfast partner in that resolve.

Gratefully,

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*a world where character is universal*

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