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Character.org Certifies 84 Schools and 7 School Districts 2020 National Schools of Character

Washington, D.C. (May 15, 2020) — <u>Character.org</u>, a national advocate and leader for character development in our schools and communities, today certified 84 schools and 7 districts in 15 states as National Schools of Character.

"We are pleased to announce and celebrate the schools and school districts who have earned this national recognition," said Dr. Arthur Schwartz, President of Character.org. "Each of these schools and school districts has put in place a comprehensive approach to help their students understand, care about, and consistently practice the core values that will enable them to flourish in school, in relationships, in the workplace, and as citizens."

Since its inception, the National Schools of Character program has impacted nearly 3 million students, staff, parents, and community members. The schools and school districts who apply must meet the rigorous standards articulated in Character.org's 11 Principles Framework for Schools. Each school is evaluated by a team of trained educators and includes a site visit to assess how a school's "shared values" are motivating students to do the right thing.

"These schools and school districts serve as an exemplary model for all schools and districts across the nation," adds Lori Soifer, who directs the Schools of Character program. "The educators at these schools are inspiring their students to treat all people with respect and dignity. They are teaching their students to be honest and trustworthy, to contribute their time and talents to the common good, and when necessary, to show the courage to stand up for what is right."

Character.org will honor the 2020 National Schools of Character during its next National Forum. The complete list of the 2020 National Schools of Character is below. To learn more about the schools and school districts being certified today, please visit www.character.org/schools-of-character

About Character.org: Founded in 1993, Character.org is a non-profit organization based in Washington, D.C. Our mission is to provide the voice, visibility, and resources for educators to build nurturing and supportive school cultures that focus on core values and character strengths vital to student and school success. Character.org is widely known for its *11 Principles*, a comprehensive framework developed by school leaders and character development researchers. During the past 20 years, more than 900 schools and school districts – after an independent and rigorous evaluation process – have been certified a National School of Character. The vision for Character.org is to expand our work to families, sports, and the workplace. Visit www.character.org to learn more.



2020 National Schools and Districts of Character

**Denotes District of Character

Colombia School of Character - Colegio Nueva Granada, Bogota

ALABAMA

Hartselle Intermediate School, Hartselle Huntington Place Elementary, Northport Vestavia Hills Elementary at Cahaba Heights, Vestavia Hills Walker Elementary School, Northport

ARIZONA

Imagine Bell Canyon, Phoenix imagine Coolidge Elementary, Coolidge

FLORIDA

Imagine Kissimmee Charter Academy, Kissimmee Imagine Schools at South Lake, Clermont Orlando Science Schools Middle High, Orlando

GEORGIA

Rocky Branch Elementary School, Bogart

ILLINOIS

Forest Park Individual Education School, Joliet

KANSAS

Complete High School Maize, Maize

MICHIGAN

Birmingham Seaholm High School, Birmingham Wass Elementary, Troy Wattles Elementary, Troy

MISSOURI

Bayless Junior High School, St. Louis
Brennan Woods Elementary, High Ridge
Brown Elementary School, Florissant
Cambridge Elementary, Belton
Cold Water Elementary, Florissant
Crestview Middle School, Ellisville
Highcroft Ridge Elementary, Parkway School District, Chesterfield
James E. Freer Elementary, Barnhart



Oak Brook Elementary School, Ballwin

Oakville High School, St. Louis

Parkway Central High School, Chesterfield

Parkway West Middle, Chesterfield

Selvidge Middle School, Ballwin

Spoede Elementary School, Ladue School District, St. Louis

**Windsor C-1 School District, Imperial

Windsor High School, Imperial

Wren Hollow Elementary School, Manchester

MONTANA

Loy Elementary, Great Falls

NEW JERSEY

Arthur L. Johnson High School, Clark

Barclay Early Childhood Center, Cherry Hill

Broad Street School, Bridgeton

Camden County Technical School, Gloucester Campus, Sicklerville

Camden County Technical School, Pennsauken Campus, Pennsauken

Catherine A. Dwyer School, Wharton

Central Jersey College Prep, Somerset

Cherry Hill High School West, Cherry Hill

Crescent Elementary School, Waldwick

Dennis B. O'Brien Elementary School, Dover

**Eastern Christian School Association, North Haledon

Grice Middle School, Hamilton

Hilldale Elementary School, Montville Township, Pine Brook

Horace Mann Elementary School, Cherry Hill

Jefferson School, Vauxhall

John E. Dwyer Technology Academy, Elizabeth

Juan Pablo Duarte - Jose Julian Marti, Elizabeth

Kindergarten Success Academy, Roselle

Lawrence Township Public Schools, Lawrenceville

M. Scott Carpenter Elementary School, Old Bridge

Macopin Middle School, West Milford

Marcus W. Newcomb Middle School, Pemberton

Memorial Elementary School, Old Bridge Township Public Schools, Laurence Harbor

Old Bridge High School, Matawan

**Old Bridge Township Public Schools, Matawan

Oxford Central School, Oxford

Pemberton Township High School, Pemberton

Saint Leo the Great School, Lincroft

Southwood Elementary School, Old Bridge



Thomas Paine Elementary School, Cherry Hill Valley View School, Montville Walter M. Schirra Elementary School, Old Bridge **West Milford Township Public Schools, West Milford William A. Miller Elementary School, Old Bridge William F. Halloran School No. 22, Elizabeth

NEW YORK

Harvey Austin Elementary School, Buffalo Jonas E. Salk Middle School, Levittown Public Schools, Levittown Mildred E. Strang Middle School, Yorktown Heights

NORTH CAROLINA

Southwest Elementary School, High Point

PENNSYLVANIA

Afton Elementary School Pennsbury School District, Yardley
Bucks County Technical High School, Fairless Hills
Edgewood Elementary School, Pennsbury School District, Yardley
Fallsington Elementary School, Pennsbury School District, Fallsington, PA 19058
M.M. Seylar Elementary School, Perkasie
Oxford Valley Elementary School, Fairless Hills
**Pennsbury School District, Fallsington
Pennwood Middle School, Yardley
Quarry Hill Elementary School, Pennsbury School District, Yardley
William Penn Middle School, Pennsbury School District, Yardley

TEXAS

Clear Brook High School, Friendswood
Fort Settlement Middle School, Sugar Land
Harmony School of Innovation, Fort Worth, Fort Worth
Harmony School of Innovation, Houston, Houston
Mambrino STEAM Academy, Granbury
School of Science and Technology, Alamo, San Antonio
Woodridge Elementary, Alamo Heights ISD, San Antonio
Zwink Elementary, Klein ISD, Klein

VIRGINIA

**Imagine Schools, Vienna