



Character.org Certifies 76 State Schools and 1 District of Character

Washington, D.C. (January 25, 2021) —[Character.org](https://www.character.org), a national advocate and leader for character, today designated 76 schools and 1 district as State Schools of Character for 2021. In addition, Character.org is recognizing 2 international schools in Brazil and Mexico as Schools of Character. Since its inception, Character.org's Schools of Character program has positively impacted nearly 3 million students, staff, parents, and other community members. Each year, Character.org certifies schools and districts at the state level that demonstrate a dedicated focus on character development which has a positive effect on academic achievement, student behavior, and school climate. Schools and districts announced today will be considered for Character.org's highest distinction - National School of Character. (See the complete list of 2021 State Schools of Character below.)

"We are pleased to announce today the 2021 State Schools and Districts of Character," said Dr. Arthur Schwartz, Character.org's President. "We congratulate these schools on achieving State School of Character designation in a year filled with so many challenges. The educators and parents at these schools work together to ensure that every child understands, cares about, and consistently practice the core values that form the heart of each family and school. We are honored to recognize their efforts and share their inspiring work with schools and school districts throughout the United States and internationally."

To learn more about the schools chosen today and those in the midst of their 5-year certification as State Schools of Character, please visit [Character.org](https://www.character.org). Criteria for selection are based on Character.org's [*11 Principles Framework for Schools: A Guide to Cultivating a Culture of Character*](#) which includes providing students with opportunities for moral action, fostering shared leadership, and engaging families and communities as partners in the character-building effort.

The 2021 National Schools of Character will be announced in May 2021 and honored at our National Forum next fall in Washington D.C. Learn more about the [National Forum](#) on our website.

About [Character.org](https://www.character.org): Founded in 1993, [Character.org](https://www.character.org) is a national nonprofit based in Washington, D.C. We work with schools, families, workplaces, and communities to educate, inspire, and empower people of all ages to be ethical and compassionate citizens. Our *11 Principles for Schools* is a comprehensive framework that helps schools and school districts improve academic achievement, student behavior, and overall positive school climate. Visit www.character.org to learn more about the National Forum and the Schools of Character program.

List of 2021 State Schools and Districts of Character

INTERNATIONAL:

Rio de Janeiro School of Character: CEL Intercultural School, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Zacatecas School of Character: Escuela Secundaria Tecnológico de Monterrey Zacatecas, Mexico

STATE SCHOOLS OF CHARACTER:

(**Denotes State District of Character)

ALABAMA:

Brookwood Middle School
Childersburg High School
Vestavia Hills Elementary West

CALIFORNIA:

Brentwood Lower School

FLORIDA:

Orlando Science Elementary School
River City Science Academy Mandarin
River City Science Academy Middle-High School
Seminole Middle School

KANSAS:

USD 271 Stockton Grade School

MARYLAND:

Thomas W. Pyle Middle School

MICHIGAN:

Bemis Elementary
Troy Athens High School
Troy Union Elementary School

MISSOURI:

Barretts Elementary
Bayless Elementary
Bayless High School
Belton Middle School
Busch Middle School of Character
Craig Elementary School
Don Earl Early Childhood Center
Geggie Elementary
Lincoln Elementary School-MO
Woerther Elementary School
Wright City West Elementary School

NEW JERSEY:

Alan B. Shepard Elementary School
Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy
Birchwood Elementary School
Carl Sandburg Middle School
Caroline Reutter School
Cedar Hill Elementary School

Charles G. Harker School
Cherry Hill East High School
Copeland Middle School
Donald Stewart School No. 51
Dr. William Mennies Elementary School
Hillside Elementary School
Joyce Kilmer Elementary School-Cherry Hill
Joyce Kilmer Elementary School-Milltown
Katharine D. Malone Elementary School
Leroy Gordon Cooper Elementary School
**Rockaway Township Schools
Roebing Elementary School
Spotswood Memorial Middle School
Virgil I. Grissom Elementary School
Woodmont Elementary

NEW YORK:

Pelham Middle School
St HOPE Leadership Academy

NORTH CAROLINA:

Southeast Guilford High School
Union Academy Charter School

OHIO:

Primary Village South

OKLAHOMA:

Jefferson Elementary School
Lincoln Elementary School-OK
Muskogee Early Childhood Center

PENNSYLVANIA:

Eleanor Roosevelt Elementary School
Makefield Elementary School
Manor Elementary School
Penn Valley Elementary School
Pennsbury High School
Walt Disney Elementary School

TEXAS:

Clear Falls High School
Doerre Intermediate School
G W Robinson Elementary School
H.L. Brockett Elementary School
Harmony School of Endeavor-Houston
Harmony School of Innovation-Katy
Harmony School of Science-Houston
Harmony Science Academy-Cedar Park

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Harmony Science Academy-Garland
Harmony Science Academy-Pflugerville
Klenk Elementary School
Krimmel Intermediate School
School of Science and Technology Discovery
School of Science and Technology Sugar Land
School of Science and Technology-San Antonio