



## Eleven Principles of Effective Character Education



### **Principle 1**

Promotes core ethical values and supportive performance values as the foundation of good character.

### **Principle 2**

Defines "character" comprehensively to include thinking, feeling, and behavior.

### **Principle 3**

Uses a comprehensive, intentional, and proactive approach to character development.

### **Principle 4**

Creates a caring school community.

### **Principle 5**

Provides students with opportunities for moral action.

### **Principle 6**

Includes a meaningful and challenging academic curriculum that respects all learners, develops their character, and helps them to succeed.

### **Principle 7**

Strives to foster students' self-motivation.

### **Principle 8**

Engages the school staff as a learning and moral community that shares responsibility for character education and attempts to adhere to the same core values that guide the education of students.

### **Principle 9**

Fosters shared moral leadership and long range support of the character education initiative.

### **Principle 10**

Engages families and community members as partners in the character-building effort.

### **Principle 11**

Evaluates the character of the school, the school staff's functioning as character educators, and the extent to which students manifest good character.

