

CHARACTER COUNTS! sm Guide for Behavior

RESPECT

Treat everyone with respect by being polite

Respect the individuality of others

Be accepting of individual differences

Judge people on their merit, not on their race, religion, nationality, gender, physical or mental condition, social or economic status or any other improper factor

CARING

Show you care about others through kindness, caring, generosity, and compassion

Live by the "GOLDEN RULE" . . . treating others the way you want them to treat you

Think what every decision, word, or action will do to other people

TRUSTWORTHINESS

Honesty - be open and direct, be sincere, return things you find

Promise-keeping - keep your word, make only promises you plan to keep, return what you borrow, be someone others can trust

Loyalty - keep private information private, stand up for, support, and protect your family, friends, teachers, employers, school, community and country

Integrity - stand up for your beliefs - right and wrong, say no to social pressure on things you think are wrong, have courage to do the right thing - "walk your talk"

RESPONSIBILITY

Be accountable, use self-restraint, pursue excellence

Think before you act

Consider the consequences on yourself and others

Accept responsibility for your actions or lack of action

Be reliable, always perform your duties

Set a good example in what you say and do

Take the initiative to make your school, organization, neighborhood, or home better for yourself and others

Do your best, make everything you do worthy of your pride

Stick to it, meet your responsibilities even when it is difficult to do

Keep a calendar of things-to-do notes

Finish your work before you play

FAIRNESS

Be fair to everyone

Listen to others- try to understand what they feel and say

Use the same rules for everyone

Correct your mistakes

Think before you decide

CITIZENSHIP

Obey the laws and rules, at home, at school, and wherever you are

Do your share, stay informed, vote, protect your family and community, report crime and wrong-doing

Be charitable and altruistic