

CHARACTER EDUCATION

Code **IHAK** Issued **9/04**

Purpose: To establish the board's vision for and the basic structure of character education in the center.

The board is committed to the ideals of good character and citizenship through character education as part of the center's mission of successful teaching and learning.

These ideals include, but are not limited to, the following.

- personal integrity and honesty
- respect for the rights of all persons regardless of race, religion, sex, age, physical condition or mental state
- sense of justice and fair play
- trustworthiness
- patriotism
- citizenship
- understanding, sympathy, concern and compassion for others
- discipline and pride in one's work
- respect for one's property and the property of others, including public property
- understanding of the rights and obligations of a citizen in a democratic society
- respect for authority

The center's program of character education will include a meaningful and challenging curriculum that respects all learners and helps them succeed. The center will maintain a school community in which positive behavior is practiced, demonstrated, modeled and reinforced within an environment of mutual respect and dignity. The center will implement this program in close cooperation with parents of students.

The process of integrating character education in center programs will include involvement from, but not limited to, the following.

- students
- staff
- families
- elected officials
- community/civic/business leaders
- religious institutions
- youth organizations
- government
- media
- citizens at large

The director will recommend any changes to the curriculum necessary to include character education objectives in the instructional program.

The director will develop guidelines to implement this policy as necessary.

The center will assess the progress of the character education program at various times throughout the year. The evaluation will assess the character of the center, the staff functioning as character educators and the extent to which students exhibit good character.

PAGE 2 - IHAK - CHARACTER EDUCATION

Adopted 12/9/03; Revised 9/14/04

Legal references:

A. S.C. Code of Laws 1976, as amended:

1. Section 59-17-135 - Character education policy; respectful behavior encouraged.