

PRESS RELEASE: New Jersey Leads the Nation in Character Education: 2022 New Jersey State Schools of Character Announced!

We are very proud to announce that 16 New Jersey schools have been named as State Schools of Character. Once again, New Jersey leads the nation in having the highest number of schools recognized with this prestigious designation. Additional schools who are developing their programs have been named as Honorable Mention and Emerging Schools.

On Tuesday, January 25, Character.org released the list of schools that have been named State Schools of Character for 2022. These schools were evaluated using Character.org's <u>11 Principles Framework for</u> <u>Schools: A Guide to Cultivating a Culture of Character</u> which includes providing students with opportunities for moral action, fostering shared leadership, and engaging families and communities in Character Ed.

The selection process involves having schools provide evidence about their implementation of the 11 Principles Framework which tells the story of how the school has addressed each of the 11 Principles. The State School of Character Program in New Jersey is managed by the New Jersey Alliance for Social, Emotional, and Character Development (NJASECD), an all-volunteer organization that promotes implementation of character, social-emotional learning, and a positive school culture. These State Schools of Character are now eligible to apply for national recognition as the next step in the process. Congratulations to all these schools!

2022 New Jersey Schools of Character

A. Russell Knight Elementary, Cherry Hill, N.J.
Burlington County Alternative School, Mount Laurel, N.J.
Campbell Elementary School, Metuchen, N.J.
Cinnaminson Middle School, Cinnaminson, N.J.
E.J.F. Aldene Elementary School, Roselle Park, N.J.
Harrison Elementary School, Roselle, N.J.
John A. Carusi Middle School, Cherry Hill, N.J.
Maple Road School, West Milford, N.J.

McGalliard Elementary School, Hamilton, N.J. Millstone Middle School, Millstone N.J. Morgan Elementary School, Hamilton, N.J. North Plainfield High School, North Plainfield, N.J. Red Bank Charter Academy, Red Bank, N.J. Somerset Intermediate School, North Plainfield, N.J. Upper Greenwood Lake Elementary School, Hewitt, N.J. Washington Elementary School, Roselle, N.J.

Benjamin Franklin School No. 13, Elizabeth, N.J. Child Family Center, Millville, N.J. Gov. Charles C. Stratton School, Woolwich Twp, N.J. Holly Heights Elementary School, Millville, N.J.

2022 Honorable Mention Schools

Lakeside Middle School, Millville, N.J. Rieck Avenue Elementary School, Millville, N.J. Valleyview Middle School, Denville, N.J. West Deptford Middle School, West Deptford, N.J.

2022 Emerging Schools

Beach Haven School, Beach Haven, N.J. Elmora School No. 12, Elizabeth, N.J. Millville High School, Millville, N.J. Mount Pleasant Elementary School, Millville, N.J. Richard C. Crockett Middle School, Hamilton, N.J. RM Bacon Elementary School, Millville, N.J. Silver Run Elementary School, Millville, N.J.

For more information, please contact us at <u>njasecd@gmail.com</u>.