

CHARACTER EDUCATION

The Caldwell County Board of Education believes that developing good character is an important goal and should be integrated into the curriculum, climate, and culture of the school. Community involvement is also critical to the process of instilling good character as we strive to develop productive citizens.

Based on community input, the Board of Education believes that the following character traits and their definitions should be fully integrated into our school system:

Courage: Having the determination to do the right thing, even when others do not and the strength to follow your conscience rather than the crowd; not only in resisting wrong, but in trying to eliminate it; and attempting difficult things that are worthwhile.

Good Judgment: Choosing worthy goals and setting proper priorities; considering options; thinking through the consequences of your actions; and basing decisions on practical wisdom and good sense.

Integrity: Having the inner strength to be truthful, trustworthy, and honest in all things; acting justly and honorably.

Kindness: Being considerate, helpful, forgiving and, understanding of others; showing gratitude, compassion, friendship, and generosity; and treating others as you would like to be treated.

Perseverance: Being persistent in the pursuit of worthy objectives in spite of difficulty, opposition, or discouragement; and exhibiting patience and having the fortitude to try again when confronted with delays, mistakes, or failures.

Respect: Showing high regard for positions of authority, for the inherent rights of others, for self, for property, and for country; understanding that all people have value as human beings, regardless of their ideas, race, gender and creed.

Responsibility: Being dependable in carrying out obligations and duties; showing reliability and consistency in words and conduct; being accountable for your own actions; and being committed to active involvement in family, school and community.

Self-Discipline: Demonstrating hard work and commitment to purpose; regulating yourself for improvement and restraining from inappropriate behaviors; being in proper control of your words, actions, impulses, and desires; choosing abstinence from premarital sex, drugs, alcohol, and other harmful substances and behaviors; and doing your best in all situations.

Tolerance: To have a fair and objective attitude toward those persons whose ideas, race, gender, or creed are different from one's own; freedom from bigotry or prejudice; allowing for expression of individuality and the right to differ.

The Board supports and encourages efforts to help all students recognize the benefits of good character as it impacts the student personally as well as the overall culture of the school.