

# Principles of Character Education:

The following principles are set forth by Wisconsin Character Education Partnership. This Partnership is the state's branch of the national organization. For more information please refer to their website:

<http://www.wicharacter.org/>

The School District of South Milwaukee has sent over 20 administrators and staff members through the Leadership Academy of Character Education (LACE) training since 2011. The 11 Principles are the foundation of the training and the focus of South Milwaukee's Character Initiative.

- #1 – Promotes core ethical values and supportive performance values as the foundation of good character.
- #2 – Defines “character” comprehensively to include thinking, feeling and behavior.
- #3 – Uses a comprehensive, intentional, and proactive approach to character development.
- #4 – Creates a caring school community.
- #5 – Provides students with opportunities for moral action.
- #6 – Includes a meaningful and challenging academic curriculum that respects all learners, develops their character, and helps them to succeed.
- #7 – Strives to foster students' self motivation.
- #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.
- #9 – Fosters shared moral leadership and long range support of the character education initiative.
- #10 – Engages families and community members as partners in the character-building effort.
- #11 – Evaluates the character of the school, the school staff's functioning as character educators, and the extent to which students manifest good character.