

Character Education Resource Center News You Can Use

October 2017

"My pain may be the reason for somebody's laugh, but my laugh must never be the reason for somebody's pain."
-Charlie Chaplin

THIS MONTH IS NATIONAL BULLYING MONTH

This month we focus on the importance of creating a safe environment for learning in our schools by eliminating bullying. The issue needs to be addressed both in the classroom and throughout the entire school community. Below are links to programs, teaching ideas, and websites that can help prevent bullying in your school community.

The United States federal government website <https://www.stopbullying.gov/index.html> defines bullying, describes risk factors, and offers information to respond and prevent bullying. The information found there can be useful to parents, teachers, school administrators, and the community.

Teachers, use this link from the National Education Association to find quality lesson plans for students of all grades. Examples include using literature response groups and the picture book [A Bad Case of Stripes](#) to have students reflect on their experiences, as well as having older students compare jokes to bullying.

<http://www.nea.org/tools/lessons/teaching-students-to-prevent-bullying.html>

Edutopia offers tips for teachers, principals, and parents in this article about preventing bullying. These tips include practice what you preach, take immediate action, and making sure children know what is and is not bullying.

<https://www.edutopia.org/blog/bullying-prevention-tips-teachers-parents-anne-obrien>

For an example of an anti-bullying program in a middle school, read this article from educators in Fairfax County, Virginia. It explains their journey of tracking and using data from the students to change the counseling services they offered to students.

<https://www.schoolcounselor.org/asca/media/asca/home/Empowering-Students-YoungVol12No6.pdf>

Finally, revisit our August edition of NUCU, which also focused on the topic of bullying.

<https://www.sandiego.edu/soles/documents/cdc/nucu/nucu-2017-august-0001.pdf>

Three Links of Interest:

(1) Emotional Intelligence and The Future of Work

Most US companies now understand that EQ (Emotional Intelligence) is a critical factor for both employee and company success.... Emotional Intelligence became a household word in 1995 when Daniel Goleman's book, "[Emotional Intelligence](#)" became famous in professional and academic circles. Goleman focused on five primary areas that he considered "critical" for company and employee success: Motivation, Self-Awareness, Empathy, Social Skills and Self-Regulation. These skills remain absolute today and both employees and potential employees are often routinely evaluated for their Emotional Intelligence levels. The tests are proven to help companies evaluate employees who are "outstanding" as compared to "average". These tests are now considered commonplace when evaluating and measuring employee leadership abilities.

<https://advancesystemsinc.com/eq-future-work/-content>

(2) Three Gratitude Lessons - K-8 Classrooms

Acts of Kindness (Grades K-2) Food Gratitude (Grades 3-5)

People Who Make a Difference (Grades 6-8)

Each lesson includes a learning objective, a gratitude concept, and SEL competencies along with materials and activities.

https://greatergood.berkeley.edu/article/item/three_gratitude_lessons_for_k_8_classrooms

(3) 2017 PDK Poll of the Public's Attitudes Toward the Public Schools

Here are the headlines from this year's survey:

- Americans overwhelmingly want schools to do more than educate students academically. That means blending work readiness, personal skills, and academic courses.
- Substantially more Americans oppose than support school vouchers. Whether parents would use a voucher depends on how much tuition it would cover.
- Most parents value racial/ethnic and economic diversity in schools, but they don't believe it's worth a longer commute to school.
- Schools should provide wraparound services for students, such as health services, mental health support, after-school programs, and dental services, and seek additional public money to pay for them.
- Parents say standardized tests don't measure what's important to them, and they put such tests at the bottom of a list of indicators of school quality.
- Public schools get their highest grades from those who know them best: public school parents.
- Most public school parents expect their child to attend college full time but that may not mean a four-year college.

Visit pdkpoll.org to learn more. You can download the entire report there, read additional pieces, and comment on any articles.

10 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT USD

- (1) #1 in nation for most beautiful campus
- (2) Ranked 30th in nation among public & private colleges & universities
- (3) Tied for 52nd place for best colleges for Veterans
- (4) Ranked 66th in nation for “best-value” schools
- (5) School of Leadership & Education Sciences ranked 89th
- (6) SOLES among the nation’s top 10% of Graduate Schools of Education
- (7) SOLES’s Online Master of Education ranked #22
- (8) School of Engineering ranked 12th among the nation’s best engineering schools
- (9) Ranked 109th among best business programs
- (10) *Character Education Resource Center - Ranked #1 (our opinion) in Southern California (and maybe beyond) for offering character education instructional strategies, programs, resources, and professional development to educators, parents, and the community.*



SAYS ME!

My favorite sports columnist, Nick Canepa, writes:

“Are you a bad (baseball) manager because you do everything right and your players aren’t good enough to execute? If he (Andy Green) orders a bunt that isn’t carried out, is it his fault?” Of course not. (U-T 8-28-17)

Is one a bad teacher, if his/her students know the information but have not learned the skills on how to use it? Of course not! Sure, the more you know, the more the dough! But, the bottom-line is that knowledge keeps no better than fish. Students need to develop the skills to apply what they know. In today’s world they need 21st Century skills, the “soft” skills, and especially social and emotional skills. I have written about this topic in two blogs:

The Skills Game: Who’s on First? What’s on Second? How’s on Third!

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<http://sites.sandiego.edu/character/blog/2013/11/12/skills-game/>

It’s About Skill Development—August 2017

<http://sites.sandiego.edu/character/blog/2017/08/09/its-about-skill-development/>

57TH ANNUAL California Council for the Social Studies CONFERENCE

The 2018 conference, *Tearing Down Walls: Building Connections, Collaboration and Civil Discourse*, will continue CCSS’s traditional devotion to providing quality professional development focused on new scholarship, research-based strategies, and networking - all designed to improve the teaching and learning of history/social studies across the state. You can now hit these links to [register](#) for, [exhibit](#) at, and [sponsor](#) the conference and [make hotel reservations!](#) <http://www.ccss.org/page-1861118>

March 23-25, 2018 Town and Country Resort Convention Center, 500 Hotel Circle North, San Diego, CA 92108

Comment/Critique/Unsubscribe

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