
From: "Rebecca Sapora-Day" <rsapora@RCI.RUTGERS.EDU>
To: <CHARACTER_EDUCATION_NETWORK@EMAIL.RUTGERS.EDU>
Sent: Monday, September 19, 2005 6:41 PM
Subject: CHARACTER_EDUCATION_NETWORK Online - Special Announcement

**CHARACTER_EDUCATION_NETWORK Online Mail List
Special Announcement**

The following message is a follow-up to information published in the September edition of the **CHARACTER_EDUCATION_NETWORK** Online Mail List regarding the PACES Project - an opportunity for schools to develop service-learning programs that reinforce the curriculum while fostering character education. The New Jersey Learn and Serve America Program and the NJ Center for Character Education encourage all interested schools to apply.

Philip M. Brown, Ph.D.
Director

The PACES Project: A Partnership for Advancing Character Education through Service-Learning

**An Opportunity for Public Schools (Grades 6 through 12) to Work with Nationally
Recognized
Service-Learning Mentor Schools to Promote Character Education**

INVITATION TO APPLY to BECOME AN ASPIRING SCHOOL
DEADLINE: October 11, 2005

The New Jersey Learn and Serve America Program in partnership with the NJ Center for Character Education is looking for 18 schools to become "Aspiring Schools" for the PACES Project. PACES (which stands for a Partnership for Advancing Character Education Through Service) is a peer mentoring program developed to increase and expand the quality and integration of service-learning and character education in schools throughout the state.

Through this program Mentor Schools and Aspiring Schools will form a collegial relationship that will:

- Aid in identifying the needs of each Aspiring School and its community
- Aid in designing service-learning / character education initiatives that meet the needs while addressing the Core Curriculum Content Standards
- Encourage the sharing and exchange of strategies, ideas, experiences and resources relating to the integration and infusion of service-learning and character education
- Establish assessments of their programs
- Support the development of effective practices through on-site visits, phone contact, videoconferencing and Web-based teleconferencing and

- Enhance the creation of digital portfolios describing the integration of service-learning and character education into their programs.

Attached you will find a sign up application to become an Aspiring School. This opportunity is open to all public schools (Grades 6-12). Eligibility, expectations and selection process are stated on the application. The deadline for the application is October 11, 2005. This is a peer mentoring program and does not carry funding for the aspiring schools.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Eileen Dachnowicz, PACES Project Coordinator at (908) 233-5997 or (908) 654-4046 or E-mail: heyberk@aol.com

APPLICATION OVERVIEW

ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION PROCESS:

Approximately 18 aspiring schools will be selected. Applications will be reviewed for:

- Adequacy of team composition and the school's commitment to service-learning.
- Reasons for wanting to develop and sustain service-learning in the school.
- School's identification of specific issue(s) and need(s).
- School's technological capacity for videoconferencing and Internet collaboration.

EXPECTATIONS FOR ASPIRING SCHOOLS:

Through the course of the program year applicants are expected to:

- Select three faculty members, including one administrator and one proficient in technology, who will serve as the collaborative team, make on-site visits, attend conferences, participate in video and teleconferencing and communicate through e-mail, phone contact and collaborative Internet software.
- Participate in video-conferencing, technical assistance training sessions, and conferences.
- Participate in the program evaluation that will be conducted by the NJ Center for Character Education, review evaluative data and design a 2006-07 service-learning implementation plan.

Mail your application or e-mail your application by October 11, 2005 to:

Thilda Coyman
New Jersey Center for Character Education
41 Gordon Road, Suite A
Piscataway, NJ 08854-8067
E-mail: coyman@rci.rutgers.edu

For questions about the PACES Project, contact:

Eileen Dachnowicz, Project Coordinator
(908) 233-5997 or (908) 654-4046
E-mail: heyberk@aol.com

APPLICATION

Applicant Contact Information:

School: _____ District: _____

Address: _____

County: _____ Enrollment: _____

Principal: _____ Phone: _____

Fax: _____ E-mail: _____ Web Site: _____

Application Questions:

Type on a separate sheet or create an e-mail attachment for responses to the following questions.

Be concise – no more than a page per response is required.

- 1. Why do you want to develop and/or enhance service-learning activities in your school?**
- 2. Describe how character education is implemented in your school.**
- 3. Describe if and/or how service-learning is implemented in your school.**
- 4. Are service-learning activities currently infused into your schools curriculum?**
- 5. What challenges are faced in implementing service-learning in your school?**

Please check all that apply:

How do you connect to the Internet?

Fiber-optic _____ Cable _____ Broadband _____ DSL _____ Other _____

What browser does your school use for Internet connection?

Internet Explorer _____ Netscape _____ Other _____

Check your 1st and 2nd choice of the Mentor School with which you would like to work, or mark the “No Preference” box.

We will try to accommodate team preferences, but teams are not guaranteed their choice.

School (County in Parenthesis)	1 st Choice	2 nd Choice	No Preference
Cranford High School, Cranford (Union)			
Delsea Middle School, Delsea (Gloucester)			
Delsea High School, Delsea (Gloucester)			
Iselin Middle School, Woodbridge (Middlesex)			
Linden High School, Linden (Union)			
Ocean County Vocational and Technical School, Toms River (Ocean)			

COLLABORATIVE TEAM MEMBERS

The collaborative team must make a year-long commitment to working with its cohort in developing service-learning programs, and in communicating successes and concerns via personal, phone, e-mail or technological contact.

(Please identify the team member who will be the technological support with a "T.")

Will the Principal be part of the Collaborative Team? YES ____ NO ____

1. Name: _____ Position:

Phone: _____ E-
mail: _____

2. Name: _____ Position:

Phone: _____ E-
mail: _____

3. Name: _____ Position:

Phone: _____ E-
mail: _____