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To: <CHARACTER_EDUCATION_NETWORK@EMAIL.RUTGERS.EDU>
Sent: Monday, November 12, 2007 8:12 PM
Subject: [Character_education_network] CHARACTER_EDUCATION_NETWORK ALERT -November 2007

CHARACTER_EDUCATION_NETWORK ALERT November 2007

This Alert is a special announcement from the **CHARACTER_EDUCATION_NETWORK** online mail list. Alerts will periodically bring you information that is time sensitive. You will also continue to receive the monthly Character Education Network e-newsletter. Your name has been added to this list as a result of your completing the New Jersey Department of Education Character Education Network Online Listserv Form or because you have indicated an interest in receiving updates on character education efforts in New Jersey.

The Center for Social and Character Development at Rutgers University operates in cooperation with the New Jersey Department of Education under a contract with Rutgers, The State University, Center for Applied Psychology. The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent the positions or policies of the New Jersey Department of Education. No official endorsement by the New Jersey Department of Education of any product, commodity, service, or enterprise mentioned herein is intended or should be inferred.

The New Jersey Center for Character Education
Announces a *New Name*
And *Website Identity*.

The Center for Social and Character
Development at Rutgers University
is pleased to present:

www.RUCharacter.org

Your new website resource is just a click away!

As the Center enters its sixth year of existence, the time seemed right to reexamine who we are and what we do. Our new website is a project nine months in the making. The new name better reflects our organizational home at Rutgers, and also explicitly refers to our primary mission of human moral and social development. The new name also better describes the way we work, which is not so much to **do** character education, but to **assist** educators (and also parents and others), and facilitate their work in helping to develop schools of character, where the institutional culture supports development of the whole child.

The Center for Social and Character Development at Rutgers University has redesigned its website to better serve you! The new user-friendly design, as well as its extensive collection of best practices, lesson plans, and resources will help any teacher or school leader who is engaged in:

Teaching for Character

Building School Culture

and developing

Kids who Care.

Last year, many of you shared your ideas with us through an online survey, helping us understand what you need, want and expect in a good website. Thanks to you, we have been able to incorporate many of your recommendations and are now pleased to introduce you to:

www.RUCharacter.org

Some of the many new features you'll want to check out are:

Making Character Work - A Process Framework for Social and Character Development in Schools

Your journey to effective, high-quality social and character development in your school can begin with:

- Taking a quick quiz to assess your school's needs;
- Next, learn more about the Seven Guideposts to building high quality and sustainable social and character education programs in schools;

- And then, take advantage of tips and tools to help you and your school community plan, implement and evaluate your social/character education efforts.

Lesson Plans and Best Practices

Need some fresh new ideas to incorporate character education into your curriculum? Here's a large and regularly refreshed collection of classroom-based resources at your fingertips.

- Don't reinvent the wheel! Several NJ teachers and schools have developed successful lessons and best practices and they want to share their successes with you!
- Resources are organized so you can quickly narrow your lesson plan and best practice search by grade level.
- We also include the corresponding NJCCC Standards for your reference.
- As new lessons and practices are added, we'll archive those previously posted so you can refer back to them as needed.

Funding and Grant Information

Finding financial support to keep your initiative alive is made easier with information such as:

- Currently available funding sources listed by deadline date
- Utilizing Title IV-A to Support character education programs
- Time-saving resources and strategies to help you find what you need

Professional Development Opportunities

Stay at the top of your profession with access to the latest methods, research, and models:

- Upcoming conferences, workshops, and trainings
- Tips and tools for making good professional development choices
- Profile Directory of program and resource providers, with descriptions and contact information
- Technology-based resources to support your professional development

Evaluation and Assessment

Use this section to find the information and tools you need to assess how well you are doing, what you might want to tweak, and how to present your results to the school and

the larger community. Resources in this section include:

- The ABC's of Evaluation & Assessment - Why evaluate? Who can do it? How is it done?
- Plenty of great examples – Surveys, rubrics, and case studies
- Resources – Glossary of terms and links to additional resources

We sincerely hope you find the new website useful and easy to navigate. Send us your comments and suggestions at: CSCD@rci.rutgers.edu

Log on today!
www.RUCharacter.org is just a click away!

Character_education_network mailing list

Character_education_network@email.rutgers.edu

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