

WELCOME PARENTS!

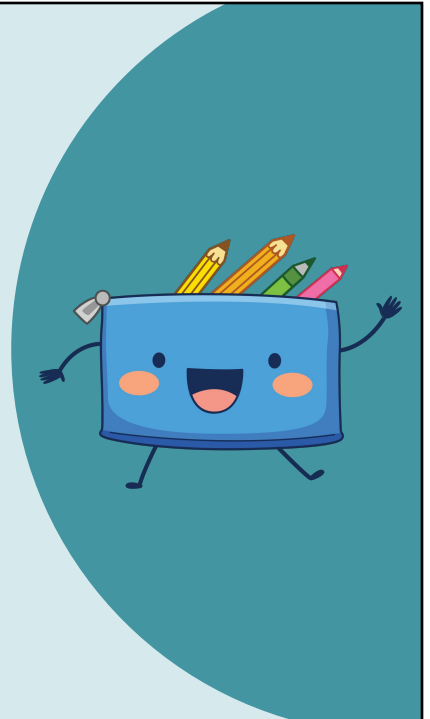
5TH GRADE PARENT NIG – WEB WHERE EVERYONE BELONGS

MAY 18, 2023



WHAT IS WEB?

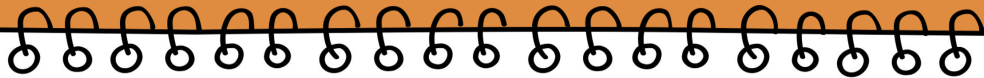
- WEB stands for “Where Everyone Belongs”
- Post principal Leslie Olson pushed for this program, paid for training for myself and Russell Jones, another 6th grade math teacher because she believes in the program’s ability to help improve the culture at Post.
- Why? Our feedback from feeder school families was that there was not enough being done at Post to help incoming 6th graders with the transition to middle school.
- Last year was our first year to implement WEB.





How does WEB work?

- 6th graders are randomly assigned two 8th grade WEB leaders.
- These WEB leaders are students that have been vetted by teachers as having potential to be great leaders.
- 6th graders attend a first day assembly to introduce them to Post and their WEB leaders.
- WEB leaders spend the morning and lunch with the WEB groups, doing activities, answering questions, and helping them to begin learning how to communicate other unknown students.
- Students meet with WEB leaders for activities once a month



How did it go this year?

- As always with a new program, there were some hiccups.
- Students, at first, were not excited about talking and working with other students for whom they were not familiar.
- We have not had a meeting for a couple of months due to a couple of assemblies; now students are actually asking the question: "When are we having our next WEB meeting?"

What is CharacterStrong?

CharacterStrong is a curriculum that is built around the “Eight Essential” character traits and the social-emotional skills that have been proven to help us be productive, empathetic, successful people. The lessons focus on investing in the whole child and the habits and traits that make them successful in all areas of life. In each classroom, we all will be working together to build a kinder school culture and, ultimately, a kinder world.



The Eight Essentials

Patience
Kindness
Humility
Respect
Selflessness
Forgiveness
Honest

The Social-Emotional Skills

Self-Awareness
Self-Management
Social Awareness
Responsible Decision-Making
Relationship Skills

Family Resources

→ FamilyStrong



What is Social Emotional Learning (SEL)?

SEL is the process through which all young people and adults acquire and apply the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to:

→ **Establish Healthy Identities**

Students will develop self awareness which will allow them to understand their own emotions and thoughts and how they influence their behavior in a variety of settings.

→ **Manage Emotions and Achieve Personal and Collective Goals**

Students will learn how to manage emotions and behaviors in different situations.

→ **Feel and Show Empathy for Others**

Students will learn how to take the perspectives of and empathize with others.

→ **Establish and Maintain Supportive Relationships**

Students will learn how to establish and maintain healthy and supportive relationships. This includes the ability to communicate clearly, listen actively, cooperate, work collaboratively to problem solve, approach conflict constructively, provide leadership, and seek or offer help when needed.

→ **Make Responsible and Caring Decisions**

Students will learn how to make caring and positive choices about personal behavior and social interactions across situations.

Benefits of Strong Social Emotional Skills

Parents and families already work on many of these skills at home. Our role is to support their work and provide all students with a common language and a school community in which they can practice these skills. Benefits seen from the development of strong social emotional skills include:

- ★ increase in students' overall grades and attendance
- ★ students better able to cope with emotional stress, solve problems, and avoid peer pressure to engage in harmful activities
- ★ students equipped to deal with problems that affect them on a personal level so they are better able to navigate the pressures of adult life

What does it look like in the classroom?

During their Advisory class, students and staff will work together through lessons that equip them with ways to understand, practice, or reflect on one of the eight essentials and their own character. Every lesson is written by educators with all students' abilities, backgrounds, and needs in mind.

CharacterDares

Each week, students will be given a new challenge that helps them to practice one of the eight character traits in their daily lives. The following week they are given an opportunity to reflect on their experience, either with trying the Dare or by sharing what they think or believe about that week's CharacterDare.

There are also Dares you can do with your family:

- ★ **Family CharacterDares**

CharacterDare Example: Look for the Good

Think of 1 person you have had a conflict with in any way this year. Intentionally look for something positive in the way they act over the next few days. Give them an in-person or written compliment.

Sometimes we can catch ourselves noticing the negatives around us without taking a pause to see the good, too. After taking the time to see good in someone else, take the time to share with that person what you noticed and the impact they have on others and yourself.