

# 6<sup>th</sup> GRADE SUMMIT

Oak Middle School



Creating a culture of  
inclusion, kindness and empathy.



A Program of Embassy Consulting Services, LLC



# OUR COMMUNITY THAT C.A.R.E.S. PART ONE

## *Character and Community Building*



CREATING SAFE COMMUNITIES

**SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL LEARNING (SEL) COMPETENCIES: SELF-AWARENESS, SOCIAL AWARENESS, RELATIONSHIP SKILLS, RESPONSIBLE DECISION-MAKING**

# PURPOSE

To understand the power of our choices and the impact it has on others.

# OBJECTIVES

- Explore the roles of character, values and ethics.
- Define the meanings of personal and social power.
- Develop a plan of action to promote empathy and kindness while creating a unified and inclusive school community.

# QUOTATION

***“Character is power.”***

*– Booker T. Washington*

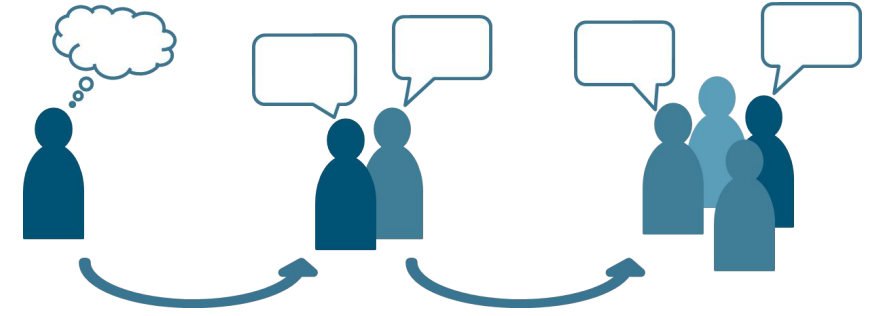
*Educator, author, orator, and  
advisor to presidents of the United States*

# CHARACTER



*A person or groups attitudes, beliefs and behaviors.*

**Character Education – Contemplating the most important values to teach the next generation**



1. What is **one** values/character trait that you feel should be taught? What is **one** of your character traits that you're proud of?
2. What role can you play in character education?  
How can you teach others?
3. What can you learn from your peers?





# DEFINITIONS

## Culture

*A group of people who have a common history or experience.*

## **BACKGROUND**

## Values

*Values are those things that are important to or valued by someone that describes the beliefs of an individual or culture.*

*Values determine what is right and what is wrong.*

## **BELIEFS**



# DEFINITIONS

## Ethics

*External rules of conduct connected to right or wrong behavior.*

## **CONDUCT**

What you do when no one is watching.

The price you're willing to pay

**Our culture  
influences  
our values**

**Our values  
influence  
our ethics**



**CULTURE = Background**

**VALUES = Beliefs**

**ETHICS = Conduct**

# *The Problem is...*

- People's values (**beliefs**) and ethics (**conduct**) aren't always in line and don't match.
- What they **say** and **do** is not aligned.



# VALUES/ETHICS GAP



**Lower your values**

**Make responsible  
decisions so your  
ethics match your  
values**



# HOW YOU CHOOSE TO RESPOND

## REACTIVE

- Make excuses, justify, rationalize
- Does not take personal responsibility- blame others
- Easily offended
- Defensive
- Negative/Complains
- Change only when they have to
- Dwells on the past

## PROACTIVE

- Think before they speak or act
- Take personal responsibility
- Not easily offended
- Open to change
- Positive
- Bounces back when something bad happens – views as an opportunity
- Looks ahead

***“Everyone else is okay with this, so I’ll be weird if I don’t go along with it.”***

***“It’s not my job to stop the teasing.”***

***“This doesn’t count as being ‘mean.’”***

***“She did something worse than I did, so what I did isn’t bad.”***

***“We were just joking around.”***

***“He’s just being too sensitive and can’t take a joke.”***

# VALUES AND ETHICS



***“Knowing what’s right doesn’t mean much unless you do what’s right.”***

*-Theodore Roosevelt*



# PERSONAL POWER

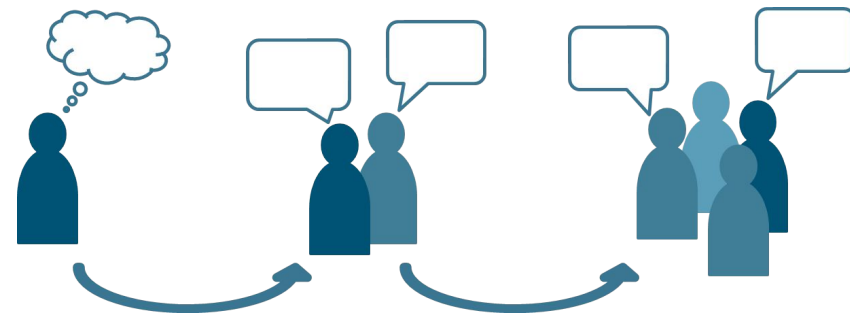
- Believing in yourself
- Ability to solve problems, work out conflicts, assert yourself, and be yourself.
- Power within yourself, not power over others.
- Confident and strong in who you are.



# SOCIAL POWER

- Ability to have influence or control over others.
- Becomes stronger when others follow or go along with them.



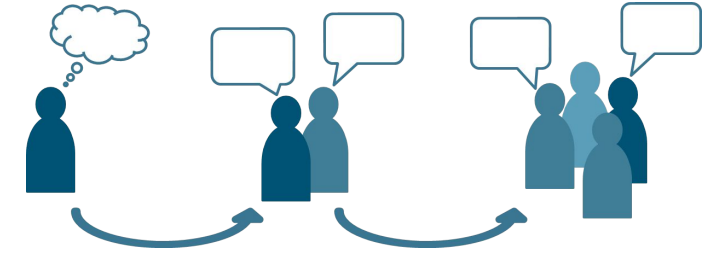


1. Examples of positive social power.
2. In school, what are some harmful or hurtful ways students use social power? What are examples of “negative peer pressure?”
3. What are some things you can do or say to someone who’s trying to pressure you into doing something you don’t feel right about?

Lesson for Living



# CONNECTION



***“If you don’t try to make that change, then who’s going to do it?”***

*-Denis Estimon*

*We Dine Together, Founder*

**What is an act of kindness that you can do TODAY?**

**What are some ways that you can use your social power for good?**



# WRAP-UP

Purpose:

To understand the power of our choices and the impact it has on others.

“I’ve learned that people  
will forget what you said,  
people will forget what you did,  
**but people will never forget  
how you made them feel.”**

—Maya Angelou

American poet, singer, memoirist,  
and civil rights activist