

CHARACTER EDUCATION

The Albemarle County School Division ~~provides~~~~shall establish~~, within its existing programs or as a separate program, a character education program in its schools. The character education program may occur during the regular school year, during the summer in a youth development academy offered by the school division, or both. The purpose of the program is to foster civic virtues and personal character traits so as to improve the learning environment, promote student achievement, reduce disciplinary problems, and develop civic-minded students of high character. The program shall be cooperatively developed with students, parents, and the community, and shall comply with criteria established by the Board of Education.

~~The Each local~~ character education program: ~~shall conform to the following criteria.~~
~~Each program must:~~

- ~~Specify~~ those character traits to be taught, selecting from those which are common to diverse social, cultural, and religious groups.
- ~~Is Be~~ implemented at the elementary and secondary levels.
- Provides for relevant professional development and adequate resources, ~~and~~
- ~~Includes~~ a method for program evaluation, ~~and~~
- Addresses the inappropriateness of bullying as defined in Va. Code § 22.1-276.01.

Character education is intended to educate students regarding those core civic values and virtues which are efficacious to civilized society and are common to the diverse social, cultural, and religious groups of the Commonwealth. It shall not include indoctrination in any particular religious or political belief.

Adopted: October 11, 1999
 Amended: November 30, 2000; September 13, 2012
 Reviewed: September 9, 2004

Legal Refs.: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, section 22.1-208.01
~~United States Constitution, First Amendment~~

~~Superintendent's Memorandum No. 45 (March 10, 2000)~~

Cross Refs.: INB, *Teaching About Controversial Issues*
 INDC, *Religion in the Schools*