

The original research on this curriculum was completed from 2001-2003 in a small school in North Carolina. With over 1,800 middle, high and alternative schools using the curriculum, this has become the largest study in America on character education at the secondary level.

**SURVEY VARIABLES:** Almost all schools are data driven and want to know how their various programs are working. We made that easy by putting the pre-tests and the post-tests on-line. At the end of the year, we provide research reports to those schools that ordered the research package and have completed the surveys. There are 84 variables that are grouped into the following eight categories:

**School Performance**  
**School Safety**  
**Risky Behavior**  
**Future Expectations**

**Character Variables**  
**Community Service**  
**Ethical Decision-Making**  
**Course Evaluations**

**COST:** It is unethical for me, the author, to conduct a research study on my own curriculum, so I have contracted with Dr. Robert E Lee to analyze the data and produce the reports for each participating school. He charges \$300 to produce each report, which is exactly what each school is charged. If you want reports in subsequent years, this will be an annual fee.

**ANNUAL RESEARCH REPORTS:** The research reports are emailed to each school in the month of July. It documents the changes in the 84 variables within the eight categories. Teachers will also be able to read the individual responses of students.

If you have any questions or concerns, you can always contact me. I am happy to provide you with a password that will allow you to view the entire survey before ordering the research package.

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## **Directions for Completing On-line Student Surveys**

**Author's Note:** The pre- and post-tests are for schools that have ordered the research package. If you ordered the research package, I provided a password below. If your school did not order the research package, I did not provide one. There is a charge of \$300 for the research package. This is the exact amount I am charged by my research director (Dr. Robert Lee) to produce a report for each school. If you want to order the research package, let me know right away and I will get you a password. Likewise, if you want your students to complete the surveys to add to our research base (which would be very helpful to me), let me know and I will get you a password (no charge).

**Note:** Please be sure that your students complete the pre-test at the beginning of your time together and the post-test at the end of your time together. If your students complete the pre-test and not the post-test, we will not be able to provide you with the research reports.

**Step 1:** Log on to [www.characterandleadership.com](http://www.characterandleadership.com).

**Step 2:** Click on the Members section on the left hand side of the page.

**Step 3:** Either click on the "Pre-Program Survey" at the beginning of the semester/year or click on the "Post-Program Survey" when the students finish the program at the end of the semester/year.

**Step 4:** Each school is given their own unique "token" to enter the survey. Your "token" is \_\_\_\_\_ (all lowercase). All students will use the same username and password for the survey.

**Step 5:** Students will go to the next screen by clicking on the icon at the bottom of each page that says, "next page." At the end of the last page of the survey, they will click on the icon that says, "Finished."

**Step 6:** We suggest providing 20-25 minutes to allow students to complete the pre-survey and 20-30 minutes to complete the post-survey.

**Step 7:** If you have any problems, email me at [info@characterandleadership.com](mailto:info@characterandleadership.com)

Dear Parent,

Your child is enrolled in a course entitled *Character Development & Leadership*. This class is being taught in numerous schools around the state. The author of this curriculum is dedicated to finding out how much of an impact this course has on the character, development, behavior and attitude of the students in the class. Therefore, we are requesting your permission to allow your child to fill out a survey at the beginning of the class and again at the end of the class.

We will ask questions about the following:

- Academics (GPA and end of grade tests)
- Behavior (days in ISS, OSS, days absent, number of tardies)
- Character (attitudes, values, and behaviors)
- Long-term career plans for after-high school
- Leadership characteristics
- Handling difficult situations
- Issues dealing with respect for family and dating relationships

**Your child's responses will be kept anonymous. This means that 1) nobody from this school district will view these results and 2) your child's name will not be revealed or connected to any of the research findings.**

By signing this consent form, you are giving \_\_\_\_\_ School permission to give your child a survey at the beginning and end of this semester. All information will be **strictly confidential** and your child's name will not be linked with any obtained information. Your consent is greatly appreciated.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent

Dear Parent,

Presently, a class entitled *Character Development & Leadership* is being taught at your child's school. The author of this curriculum is dedicated to finding out how much of an impact this course has on the character, development, behavior and attitude of the students in the class. Therefore, we are conducting a study that compares students who have taken the class with students who have not taken the class. The principal has selected your child to serve as one of the students who has not taken the class. As such, we are requesting your permission to allow your child to fill out a survey at the beginning and end of the semester.

We will ask questions about the following:

- Academics (GPA and end of grade tests)
- Behavior (days in ISS, OSS, days absent, number of tardies)
- Character (attitudes, values, and behaviors)
- Long-term career plans for after-high school
- Leadership characteristics
- Handling difficult situations
- Issues dealing with respect for family and dating relationships

**Your child's responses will be kept anonymous. This means that 1) nobody from this school district will view these results and 2) your child's name will not be revealed or connected to any of the research findings.** Your child's participation is not mandatory and will not affect her/his grade in any way.

By signing below, I give consent to allow my child to fill out the survey at the beginning and end of the semester. Your consent is greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, please call the principal of the school or Dr. Hoedel at (336) 462-7834. **Please return this form by Friday.**

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Student

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Parent