

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1995

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HOUSE BILL 908

Short Title: Character Education Required.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Eddins; Capps, McMahan, Aldridge, and Watson.

Referred to: Education.

April 12, 1995

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO PROVIDE INSTRUCTION IN
CHARACTER EDUCATION.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. G.S. 115C-81 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

"(h) Character Education. – Local boards of education shall require the teaching of the following character traits in the public schools:

(1) Courage. – Having the determination to do the right thing even when others don't and the strength to follow your conscience rather than the crowd; and attempting difficult things that are worthwhile.

(2) Good judgment. – Choosing worthy goals and setting proper priorities; thinking through the consequences of your actions; and basing decisions on practical wisdom and good sense.

(3) Integrity. – Having the inner strength to be truthful, trustworthy, and honest in all things; acting justly and honorably.

(4) Kindness. – Being considerate, courteous, helpful, and understanding of others; showing care, compassion, friendship, and generosity; and treating others as you would like to be treated.

(5) Perseverance. – Being persistent in the pursuit of worthy objectives in spite of difficulty, opposition, or discouragement; and exhibiting

- 1 patience and having the fortitude to try again when confronted with
2 delays, mistakes, or failures.
- 3 (6) Respect. – Showing high regard for authority, for other people, for self,
4 for property, and for country; and understanding that all people have
5 value as human beings.
- 6 (7) Responsibility. – Being dependable in carrying out obligations and
7 duties; showing reliability and consistency in words and conduct; being
8 accountable for your own actions; and being committed to active
9 involvement in your community.
- 10 (8) Self-Discipline. – Demonstrating hard work and commitment to
11 purpose; regulating yourself for improvement and restraining from
12 inappropriate behaviors; being in proper control of your words, actions,
13 impulses, and desires; choosing abstinence from premarital sex, drugs,
14 alcohol, tobacco, and other harmful substances and behaviors; and doing
15 your best in all situations."

16 Sec. 2. This act is effective upon ratification and applies to all school years
17 beginning with the 1995-96 school year.