

# Baker School District 5J

Code: **IGABA**  
Adopted: 11/27/01  
Orig. Code(s): IGABA

## **Character Education** (Instruction in Ethics and Morality)

In November 1991, the State Board of Education adopted the following statewide policy regarding character education in Oregon's public schools:

“Schools share responsibility with the home, religious institutions and community agencies for the development of positive character traits in young people. Oregon laws require schools to provide instruction in ethics and morality in the schools.”

Character education is not a political or religious mandate but a responsibility of the public schools to support family and community efforts in providing school-wide environments that set the occasion for the development of pro-social conduct and character. Character education is, first and foremost, an obligation of families and faith communities but schools and youth service organizations also have responsibility to help develop the character of young people. Educators believe that character and responsible citizenship is learned and can be taught.

Character education can be defined as set forth in administrative rules of the State Board of Education effective March 1994. School programs will include instruction and learning activities that provide for the core virtues which our society shares and holds important. These include, but are not limited to, respect, personal responsibility, trustworthiness, caring, honesty, justice, fairness, citizenship, patriotism, strong work ethic and civic involvement.

The character and conduct of our youth reflect the character and conduct of society; therefore, every adult has the responsibility to model the core virtues and every social institution has the responsibility to promote the development of good character.

The superintendent is directed to develop administrative rules to carry out this policy.

END OF POLICY

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### **Legal Reference(s):**

[ORS 332.107](#)

[OAR 581-022](#) -1210