

# BELLEVILLE ACHIEVES STRENGTH IN CHARACTER



Sign Up Today!!

Contact Information:

BASIC

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512 WEST MAIN STREET • BELLEVILLE,  
ILLINOIS • 62220

PHONE: (618) 257-7022 FAX: (618) 239-9598

[WWW.DOYOUHAVECHARACTER.COM](http://WWW.DOYOUHAVECHARACTER.COM)



## *The* BASIC *Initiative*

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“For a community of character to develop and endure, an abiding concern for character must become part of the community’s culture—its ordinary infrastructure and everyday conversation. A concern for character must define our sense of how we do things and who we are.”

Dr. Thomas Lickona



BELLEVILLE  
ACHIEVES  
STRENGTH  
IN  
CHARACTER



SCHOOL...HOME...COMMUNITY  
PARTNERSHIPS

# You are the key to our success!!

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President Theodore Roosevelt warned America that “To educate a person in mind and not in morals is to educate a menace to society.” Educators in the Belleville schools have taken these words to heart and are providing children not only with academic instruction, but also instruction in the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> R’s...respect and responsibility. Research supports educating for character and has even linked character education to



academic achievement and increased standardized test scores. Effective character education is not adding a program or a 45 minute lesson on character; it is a transformation of the culture and life of schools and communi-

ties. It is the way we work and play. The way we treat people and expect to be treated. It transcends race, poverty, and other divisive elements within our community and shines a spotlight on those things we have in common and the things we value. By defining what we call Life Skills...respect, responsibility, peace, empathy, cooperation, honesty, perseverance, self-discipline, and integrity...we create a foundation for character development. Character education is not limited to the schools alone. Obviously, parents are the first character educators in a child’s life, but the community in which children grow also has influence over character development. Belleville has a rich heritage and as we grow more diverse, we can continue to focus on what is right and good by working together as a community of character. Focusing on a common character...another way to put Belleville first!

## Lifeskills for Character

Respect – showing regard for self, others, property, and those in authority. (Sept.)

Responsibility – willingness to be accountable for your own actions without blaming others. (Oct.)

Peace – working and living in harmony with each other. (Nov.)

Empathy – identifying and understanding others’ feelings in order to get along better with people. (Dec.)

Integrity – doing what is right even if it is difficult. (Jan.)

Honesty/Trustworthiness – truthfulness in words and actions; being honest, reliable, and doing what you say you’ll do. (Feb.)

Perseverance – staying with a task; not giving up. (March)

Cooperation – working together in a peaceful way. (April)

Self-Discipline – thinking about your words and actions and then making choices that are right for you and others. (May)

Fairness – playing by the rules, being open-minded, listening to others, and not taking advantage of others. (June)

Citizenship – Doing your share to make your school and community better, getting involved, staying informed, and being a good neighbor. (July)

Caring – Being compassionate and showing others you care. (Aug.)

**BASIC invites you to partner with Belleville schools, businesses, churches, and civic organizations to strengthen our community through character. Become a partner! It’s FREE!! You only have to do ONE thing each month that corresponds to the lifeskill of the month...post it on your marquee, add it to your website, include it in your newsletter...the possibilities are endless!**

I want to be a part of the BASIC initiative!!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email (required): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I give you permission to post my name and/or organization on [www.doyouhavecharacter.com](http://www.doyouhavecharacter.com) as a BASIC supporter.

\_\_\_\_\_ I want to do more to support the initiative, please contact me.

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to donate goods or service to benefit this initiative.

\_\_\_\_\_ Please send me additional brochures.