

CHARACTER EDUCATION

The Maggie L. Walker Governor’s School Regional Board provides, within its existing program, character education. Character education may occur during the regular school year, or during the summer in freshmen orientation. The purpose 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. Specific character traits emphasized may include trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship.

Character education shall be interwoven into the school procedures and environment so as to instruct primarily by example, illustration and participation, in such a way as to complement the Standards of Learning. Classroom instruction may also be used to supplement the program. Character education shall also address the inappropriateness of bullying, as defined in Va. Code § 22.1-276.01.

Character education

- specifies those character traits to be taught, selecting from those which are common to diverse social, cultural and religious groups;
- provides for relevant professional development and adequate resources; and
- includes a method to evaluate character education.

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. Consistent with this purpose, Virginia's civic values, which are the principles articulated in the Bill of Rights (Article I) of the Constitution of Virginia and the ideals reflected in the seal of the Commonwealth, as described in Va. Code § 1-500, may be taught as representative of such civic values.

Adopted: April 20, 2017
Amended: August 15, 2019

Legal Refs.: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, § 22.1-208.01.

Cross Refs.:	Pol 3003.1	The Virginia Assessment Program and Graduation Requirements
	Pol 3003.4	Religion in School