

Saint Leo the Great School Recognized as A 2020 National School of Character

Lincroft, NJ Saint Leo the Great School, Lincroft, New Jersey is proud to announce that in addition to its recent recognition as a New Jersey State School of Character, it has received additional recognition as 2020 National School of Character. Saint Leo's is the first school in the Diocese of Trenton to be designated as such and one of only 84 schools throughout the country to earn the distinction.

Every year Character.org, a national advocate for character education, certifies schools and districts that show a dedicated focus on character development. These schools serve as an exemplary model for all schools across the United States. National Schools of Character have had to demonstrate this commitment through a rigorous evaluation and application process demonstrating excellence in establishing a school culture that exemplifies and brings to life *The 11 Principles Framework for Schools: A Guide to Cultivating a Culture of Character*.

Dr. Arthur Schwartz, President of Character.org. said, "Each of these schools has put in place a comprehensive approach to help their students understand, care about, and consistently practice the core values that will enable them to flourish in school, relationships, in the workplace, and as citizens."

Saint Leo the Great's Character Development Program utilizes leadership opportunities, community and service learning, and is based on the principles of the Gospel. In a dedicated collaboration with its school community, Saint Leo's was commended for its proven history of character development.

According to Mr. Cornelius Begley, Principal, "I am incredibly proud and honored to be a part of a community that is committed to character education that positively impacts its students to be ethical and compassionate citizens. At Saint Leo's we believe in the importance of character development and are committed to the continued spiritual, academic, and personal growth of our students. Now,

more than ever, it is our responsibility as educators to provide meaningful and impactful character education to our students.”

Character.org will honor the 2020 National Schools of Character during its next National Forum. For more information and the complete list of the 2020 National Schools of Character, please visit <https://www.character.org/schools-of-character>.