

## **Kingston Elementary School Named 2019 New Jersey School of Character by Character.org**

January 30, 2019 – Cherry Hill, NJ. – Kingston Elementary School is pleased to announce that Character.org, a national advocate and leader for character in collaboration with New Jersey Association for Social, Emotional, and Character Development (NJASECD), named Kingston Elementary a 2019 New Jersey School of Character. The program recognized Kingston Elementary as a school that has demonstrated its use of character development to drive a positive impact on academics, student behavior and Kingston's climate.

Kingston Elementary's serves 380 students in grades K-5 in the Kingston Estate's neighborhood of Cherry Hill, NJ. They have been teaching character education for many years, and increased the intensity of their program over the last 5 years. The building principal is William Marble, Ed.D..

The [Schools of Character](#) application process is an opportunity for schools and districts to receive thoughtful feedback for growth and excellence in the area of character development through Character.org's [11 Principles of Character](#) framework. It is also a method of recognizing exemplary schools and districts in the nation.

Since its inception, Character.org has recognized more than 565 schools with the distinction of State School of Character. Criteria for the designation are based on Character.org's *11 Principles of Effective Character Education*, which includes providing students with opportunities for moral action, fostering shared leadership and engaging families and communities as partners in character-building efforts.

*“Utilizing components of character education is a large part of our student and staff's daily routines.” said William Marble, Principal at Kingston School. “We are grateful for Character.org and for their efforts to create a state and national discussion on the importance of character in education. We are eager to carry this distinction for years to come and are hopeful our example will lead other*

*schools in New Jersey to participate in this program in order to enhance student's lives statewide."*

About Character.org: Founded in 1993, Character.org is a national nonprofit based in Washington, D.C. It works with schools, families, workplaces and other communities to inspire, educate and empower people to be ethical and compassionate citizens. Character.org is comprised of character leaders dedicated to individual growth and success through the advancement of quality character development in all schools and communities. The impact of this is seen through improved academic achievement, decline in behavioral problems such as truancy and an increase in an overall positive school climate. Visit [www.character.org](http://www.character.org) to learn more about the National Forum and the Schools of Character program.