

In Support Of “Character Counts!” Week In Ulster County

Legislators Aiello, Alfonso, Bartels, Berardi, Bischoff, Busick, Cahill, Cummings, Dart, Distel, Donaldson, Every, Fabiano, Felicello, Gerentine, Gregorius, Harris, Kraft, Liepmann, Lomita, Loughran, McAfee, Noonan, R.A. Parete, R.S. Parete, Provenzano, Roberti, Rodriguez, Shapiro, Sheeley, Stoeckeler, Terpening and Zimet offer the following:

WHEREAS, young people will be the stewards of our communities, nation and world in critical times, and the present and future well-being of our society require an involved, caring citizenry with good character, and

WHEREAS, concerns about the character training of children have taken on a new sense of urgency as violence by and against youth threatens the physical and psychological well-being of the nation, and

WHEREAS, more than ever, children need strong and constructive guidance from their families and their communities, including schools, youth organizations, religious institutions and civic groups, and

WHEREAS, the character of a nation is only as strong as the character of its individual citizens, and the public good benefits when young people learn that good character in personal relationships, in school and in the workplace, and

WHEREAS, scholars and educators agree that people do not automatically develop good character and therefore, conscientious efforts must be made by all individuals to help young people develop the essential traits and characteristics that comprise good character, and

WHEREAS, a framework for character education appropriate to a diverse and pluralistic society states that “effective character education is based on core ethical values which form the foundation of democratic society” – trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship – and these “Six Pillars of Character” transcend cultural, religious and socioeconomic differences, and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Youth Board and Youth Bureau seeks to ensure this annual recognition of character education supports the established efforts of the public schools and expands character development throughout our communities, and

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Ulster County Legislature hereby endorses the “Six Pillars of Character” and urge all Ulster County citizens to seek out opportunities to emphasize these core ethical values in their work and play, to model these traits of good character in an ongoing commitment to promote character development and ethical behavior in the youth of our County, and

Resolution No. 345 October 10, 2007

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FURTHER RESOLVED, the Ulster County Legislature declares the week commencing the third Sunday in October as “Character Counts! Week” in Ulster County for 2007, and calls on the people of Ulster County to embrace these Six Pillars of Character and observe that week with appropriate recognitions and activities,

and moves its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 32 NOES: 0
(Absent: Legislator Felicello)

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
NONE

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