

Press from:

The New Providence School District
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Subject: NEW PROVIDENCE LAUNCHES 2019-2020 CHARACTER EDUCATION INITIATIVE

The New Providence School District, a 2017 National District of Character, has launched their 2019-2020 Character Education Initiative “**LISTEN, LIFT, LEAD!**” The theme reflects the goals of Listen to others, lift each other up, and lead by example.

The district-wide Character Education Kick-Off on Tuesday, October 8th, 2019, was designed to coordinate with the National Week of Respect.

The New Providence School District created a film where students, staff and teachers were featured sharing scenarios and answers to the questions “Why is it important to Listen?”, “Has anyone Lifted your spirits?” and “How have you been a Leader?”.

Both Salt Brook Elementary School and Allen W. Roberts Elementary School hosted a Kick-Off Pep Rally, where the New Providence High School Cheerleaders led the elementary students in a “Listen, Lift, Lead” cheer. Sixth grade New Providence PAL cheerleaders were invited to practice and perform the cheer with the high school squad for their respective schools. Students were then able to view the film in their classrooms, and discuss ways of reflecting the theme each day at home and in school.

Jean Drexinger, Principal at Salt Brook Elementary School, states “In addition, the “**LISTEN, LIFT, LEAD**” theme will be carried over into the hallways, the cafeteria, and playgrounds during the current school year. Throughout the course of the school year the students will be involved in learning activities designed to develop good character and empower them to make good choices for themselves. Many of these activities will be school-based programs as well as multi-level interconnecting activities involving High School and Middle School students. All the while, working on developing positive relationships and helping each other internalize the message of leadership, respect, kindness, and empathy for others.”

Character Education lessons are included in the curriculum at the elementary, intermediate and high school levels. Students participate in character building activities

in the classroom as well as through service learning opportunities throughout the district such as Student Council, Peer Leaders, UC STEP, and partnerships with local volunteer organizations.

Gina Hansen, Principal at Allen W. Roberts Elementary School, adds “The entire community benefits when we bring students of all grade levels together to model and promote positive character development.”

For more information on how the New Providence School District strives to promote and excel in Character Education, please visit the website at <https://www.npsd.k12.nj.us/Domain/692>.