



Character Education and Service Learning are Part of a Well-Rounded Education at GCS

STUDENTS DEVELOP SKILLS FOR SUCCESS WHILE HELPING AND GAINING A DEEPER APPRECIATION FOR THEIR COMMUNITIES.

GCS is considered a national leader in character education and service-learning. Our students have presented at the National Service Learning Conference three years in a row, showing how they reinforce what they learn in the classroom to help improve the world around them.

Research also shows that students who participate in service-learning experiences have “strong academic and personal impacts” (Billig 2000) as they work together to better their community and build relationships with each other and adults in their lives. Intentional character development in the classroom also focuses on social and emotional learning that support students’ achievement, behavior and the cultural climate within schools.

Since 2010, GCS high school students used what they’ve learned to serve more than 1.7 million hours in the community, worth more than \$41 million in economic impact.



**NATIONAL LEADER
IN CHARACTER
EDUCATION:**

- 17 State Schools of Character
- 12 National Schools of Character
- 2013 District of Character
- 2013 N.C. District of Character
- 85 programs recognized as Promising Practice recipients since 2012
- One in three members of the Class of 2017 (1,658) served at least 100 hours in the community
- 500+ students are trained as service-learning ambassadors
- Schools contribute tens of thousands of pounds of food to address wide-spread food insecurity in Guilford County

To learn more, please visit the Character Development Department page on www.gcsnc.com