Center for Character and Citizenship

The Center for Character and Citizenship (CCC) generates and disseminates knowledge and research about how individuals develop moral and civic character, and provides scholars, educators and organizations with the tools they need to contribute to this development. With the aim to promote high quality scholarship in character education and citizenship, the CCC is home to the *Journal of Research in Character Education*, as well as an extensive collection of books, videos, curriculum and other resources in character education and citizenship available as a lending library for local educators and academics.

Educator professional development workshops include comprehensive character education, integrating character education into the academic curriculum, school leadership for character education, professional ethical learning communities, empowering student voices in school, and parent involvement.

**Programs**

The **Sanford N. McDonnell Leadership Academy for Character Education** helps principals deepen their understanding of character education, and shows them how to include character education in every aspect of a student’s school day. Principals learn to involve not just students, but teachers, parents and community members in the character building process. Through sustained learning, conversation, study and writing, participants create a community of school leaders dedicated to character education and school change. Academy participants share a commitment to character education, and help one another build lasting programs that have a positive, long-term impact on students’ lives.

The **Summer Institute in Character Education** is a five-day program that provides an intensive overview of character education. It is designed for teachers and other educators from schools that are committed to fostering character development in students ranging from pre-school to high school. The institute has been held each summer since 2000 and has attracted approximately 25 educators each year. Thus, approximately 500 students are impacted each graduating class during the subsequent school year.

A pioneer in civics education, the **Citizenship Education Clearing House (CECH)** has been teaching students the "political ropes" since the 1960s. CECH's programs target elementary, middle and high school students, providing them a real-life experience in the political process, with the expectation that "learning the system" will encourage them to participate in politics when they become adults. Programs offered are Kids Voting Missouri and CECH's statewide local government program which reach thousands of K-12 students annually.