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For Immediate Release

SCHOOLS ACROSS NORTH AMERICA RECOGNIZED FOR “PROMISING PRACTICES” IN CHARACTER EDUCATION

Character Education Partnership selects winners to be honored in November

June 12, 2007 . . . Washington, DC – Over 100 schools and districts from around the United States as well as from Canada, Mexico, and Singapore will receive 130 awards for “Promising Practices” in character education.

The Character Education Partnership (CEP) gives the annual awards for unique and specific exemplary practices that encourage the ethical, social, and academic growth of K–12 students through character education. By publicizing these awards, CEP hopes to recognize educators for their efforts and to encourage others to learn from and even replicate these successful initiatives.

This year, CEP received 206 applications from 140 public and private schools and districts. Schools in New Jersey submitted the most applications and will receive the most awards, followed by Missouri, Michigan, and New York. Winning practices included creative ways to encourage positive relationships, recognize students for good behavior, and offer students opportunities to give back to their school and community. “These schools have found creative new ways to encourage their students to be better citizens who care about others,” stated Lara Maupin, program coordinator.

Winning schools will receive their awards at CEP’s 14th National Forum on Character Education. The theme for the event is “*Investing in America’s Future*.” It will be held November 1–3, 2007, in Arlington, Virginia, just outside Washington, D.C. In addition, winning practices will be featured in CEP’s annual National Schools of Character publication and on the CEP Web site (www.character.org).

The Character Education Partnership, based in Washington, D.C., is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, nonsectarian coalition of organizations and individuals dedicated to developing young people of good character who become responsible and caring citizens. CEP is the nation’s leading advocate for quality character education initiatives.

The Promising Practices awards program is part of CEP’s National Schools of Character awards program. To learn more about applying to become a National School or District of Character or about applying for a Promising Practices Award in 2008, visit CEP’s Web site. Applications for Promising Practices awards must be submitted online by March 15, 2008.