CHARACTER COUNTS! is proud to offer 10 outstanding professional development courses for 2019-2020. Each of the following interactive professional development courses will be delivered in half- or full-day format by dynamic CHARACTER COUNTS! trainers. All CHARACTER COUNTS! courses are grounded in the 12 core values and skills identified in the 2019-2020 Model Standards for Academic, Social, Emotional, Character Development: the Six Pillars of Character (trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship) and Six Life Skills (learning, self-discipline, diligence, positivity, perseverance, resilience).

The total cost (plus trainer expenses) is $3500. For more information or to book a course write or call raycenter@drake.edu or 515-271-1910.

List of Courses
100. Introduction to CHARACTER COUNTS! 6.0
101. Building Character Through Sports
102. Increasing Positive Parent Engagement
103. Integrating Ethical and Performance Values into the Curriculum
104. Creating a Culture of Kindness to Combat Bullying
105. Dealing with ADHD and other learning challenges
106. Managing Behaviors of At-Risk Youth and Students With learning Challenges
107. Creating a Professional Learning Environment for Teachers
108. Instilling the Growth Mindset
109. Integrating CHARACTER COUNTS! with PBIS

Course Descriptions
100. Introduction to CHARACTER COUNTS! 6.0. Introduction to the core components and strategies of CHARACTER COUNTS! 6.0 (the newest updated version of the nation’s most widely used values and skill development program) based on the 2019-2020 Model Standards for Academic, Social, Emotional and Character Development. The workshop provides all members of the school community (administrators, teachers, counselors, coaches, parents and student leaders) a roadmap to introduce and sustain a comprehensive CHARACTER COUNTS! program built on 12 character and performance values: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, citizenship (the Six Pillars of Character), learning, diligence, self-discipline, positivity, perseverance, resilience.
101. Building Character Through Sports. This workshop will present tools and strategies to help athletic administrators, physical education teachers, coaches, and others teach, enforce, advocate and model (T.E.A.M.) character and leadership skills to students through sports by effectively integrating the six core ethical values – the Six Pillars of Character – and core life skill into practices, games and all other sports interactions. The workshop is based on the successful CHARACTER COUNTS! sports program called Pursuing Victory With Honor. It focuses on issues of sportsmanship and special problems and opportunities dealing with parents, other coaches and establishing a healthy competitive environment for all students and spectators.

102. Increasing Positive Parent Engagement. Focuses on best practices and innovative strategies to enhance positive parent engagement in the education of their children and supporting school activities. It also includes proven strategies to deal with disengaged, over-engaged or otherwise difficult parents.

103. Integrating Ethical and Performance Values into the Curriculum. Provides specific tools and methods to integrate the 12 CHARACTER COUNTS! ethical and performance values (trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, citizenship; learning, diligence, self-discipline, positivity, perseverance, resilience) into academic courses, sports and other co-curricular activities.

104. Creating a Culture of Kindness to Combat Bullying. Discusses best practices to eliminate physical and cyber bullying by creating and maintaining a school culture that encourages kindness and respect.

105. Dealing with ADHD and other learning challenges. Provides a basic overview of current research and best practices to recognize symptoms and effectively assist with students with various learning challenges including ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder) SPD (Sensory Processing Disorder), and Dyslexia. The workshop will demonstrate and teach the proper use of fidgets and introduce proven CBT (Cognitive behavior Therapy) and other therapies to deal with stress and anxiety.

106. Managing Behaviors of At-Risk Youth and Students With learning Challenges. Best practices for working with at-risk youth and students with serious behavioral issues.

107. Creating a Professional Learning Environment for Teachers. Workshop explores best practices for building a productive and positive professional learning environment for educators by engaging in the five fundamental practices of building classrooms of character.

108. Instilling the Growth Mindset. This workshop provides tools and strategies to promote acceptance of the growth mindset to help students deal with disappointments, difficulties and failures. It will introduce best practices to build self-confidence and self-esteem and develop the attributes of self-discipline, perseverance and resilience.

109. Integrating CHARACTER COUNTS! with PBIS. Workshop focuses on braiding CHARACTER COUNTS! strategies and techniques to modify student behavior and instill the Six Pillars of Character (trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and good citizenship) and 6 life skills (learning, diligence, self-discipline, positivity, perseverance, resilience) for schools that utilize PBIS.