

# PROGRAM SUMMARY AND BENEFITS

## **Building Character with Kelso**

is a powerful and timely tool created to help develop positive character traits in young people. The program philosophy is simple:

Each child is capable of being an ethical, moral, and successful citizen. Building Character with Kelso promotes positive behavior rather than modifying and rewarding specific personality traits.

## **THIS PROGRAM REFLECTS A PROVEN WAY TO:**

- **EMPOWER YOUNG PEOPLE** to understand and organize their behavior into core ethical and pro-social behaviors, to develop positive character traits, to develop lifelong skills, and to encourage an internal locus of control.
  - **SYSTEMATIZE EXPECTATIONS** of school behavior and provide consistency on a school-wide basis: all students are encouraged to be **RESPECTFUL, CARING, FAIR, RESPONSIBLE,** and **HONEST** in all aspects of their lives.
  - **CREATE A POSITIVE ENVIRONMENT** of caring and respect. Building Character with Kelso is a comprehensive, multifaceted approach that focuses on the entire school culture and builds a positive school climate, which has been proven to help combat bullying.
  - **PROVIDE A COGNITIVE STRUCTURE** for determining behavior by modeling and teaching good character and universal values.
  - **INCREASE FEELINGS OF PERSONAL COMPETENCE AND SELF-MOTIVATION** as young people effectively learn the importance of building good character, both within the structured lessons and in their own lives.
  - **DEVELOP A SENSE OF SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY** that reflects these positive values and internal assets.
  - **DEVELOP AN IMPORTANT LINK BETWEEN SCHOOL AND HOME** by helping parents with unique and creative ways to develop positive character traits in their children at home.
- **GIVE STUDENTS A DECISION-MAKING TOOL AND GUIDE** to use in everyday situations at home and at school.
  - **PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS TO DEMONSTRATE MORAL ACTION** using the interactive teaching techniques.
  - **DEVELOP PRO-SOCIAL SKILLS** that will positively impact students' lives, prepare them for productive futures, and truly help them become lifelong learners.
  - **DEVELOP A PROACTIVE, INTENTIONAL & COMPREHENSIVE** approach to character education. The lessons are creative, varied, and unique, and are grounded in sound educational design and theory. Additionally, the curriculum addresses the needs of auditory, visual, and kinesthetic learners.

School counselors, teachers, social workers, and administrators can present the lessons and activities to students. The curriculum is easily adapted to a variety of settings: the classroom, small groups, individual counseling, and school-wide. Each lesson is catered to fit into a 30-40 minute class period.

In addition to the Reproducible Masters found at the end of this book, there are also a number of reproducible handouts featured throughout this Leader's Guide. You may either photocopy them directly from the book or print them from the CD attached to the back cover.

**NOTE:** Although the entire book is included on the enclosed CD, the only pages you are granted permission to reproduce are the Reproducible Masters and those found on the following pages: 37-51, 57, 59-60, 65, 74, 83, 89, 91, 96-98, 127-131, 129, 133, 135, 147, 152-189