

By: Johnson

S.B. No. 123

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to the inclusion of social and emotional skills in
3 character trait instruction provided by public schools.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Sections 29.906(a) and (b), Education Code, are
6 amended to read as follows:

7 (a) The State Board of Education shall integrate positive
8 character traits, including social and emotional skills, into the
9 essential knowledge and skills adopted for kindergarten through
10 grade 12, as appropriate.

11 (b) The State Board of Education must include the following
12 positive character traits and skills:

13 (1) courage;

14 (2) trustworthiness, including honesty, reliability,
15 punctuality, and loyalty;

16 (3) integrity;

17 (4) respect and courtesy;

18 (5) responsibility, including accountability,
19 diligence, perseverance, self-management skills, and self-control;

20 (6) fairness, including justice and freedom from
21 prejudice;

22 (7) caring, including kindness, empathy, compassion,
23 consideration, patience, generosity, [~~and~~] charity, interpersonal
24 skills, and social awareness;

1 (8) good citizenship, including patriotism, concern
2 for the common good and the community, responsible decision-making
3 skills, and respect for authority and the law;

4 (9) school pride; [~~and~~]

5 (10) gratitude; and

6 (11) self-awareness.

7 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2021-2022
8 school year.

9 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
10 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
11 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
12 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
13 Act takes effect September 1, 2021.