



PLAINEDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
241 WYNGATE DRIVE, N. MASSAPEQUA, NY 11758
(516) 992-7455 FAX (516) 992-7446

Edward A. Salina, Jr., Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Email: Salina@plainedgeschools.org

Dear Plainedge Community,

I am happy and proud to announce that two of our elementary schools, John H. West Elementary School and Eastplain Elementary School, were selected by Character.org as 2025 Promising Practice recipients. There are only 230 schools nationwide that have received this distinction. Our programs have demonstrated a significant impact and strongly align with the principles that help schools and organizations cultivate a culture of character.

John H. West Elementary School - “*Plainedge Perk*” serves as a vibrant hub where collaboration meets community spirit. The coffee shop is run by a dynamic team of general education students from the student council and their peers in special education. This innovative coffee shop transforms Friday mornings into a celebration of inclusivity and teamwork. The student council members guide their special education schoolmates through the art of brewing delicious coffee, creating an engaging, hands-on experience that fosters essential people skills. Our initiative creates a caring community where everyone feels a strong sense of belonging, as student council members mentor their special education peers, offer guidance and encouragement while learning valuable social skills together. By demonstrating respect for one another, being responsible in their tasks, and fostering an inclusive atmosphere, students actively contribute to a culture where everyone feels welcome. The coffee shop becomes a pivotal space where our core values come to life.

Eastplain Elementary School - “*Eastplain P.R.I.D.E. (Positive, Respectful, Inclusive, Dedicated, Empowered) Sheets*” are an integral part of the Character Education Program at Eastplain. When someone witnesses a student demonstrating good character, they complete an Eastplain P.R.I.D.E. Sheet, which is shared daily in the school’s morning news broadcast and hung on the Character Strong bulletin board to be visible to the school community. It is a visual reminder of the great acts of character happening daily throughout the month. A new addition this school year is that parents can submit Eastplain P.R.I.D.E. Sheets when they witness their children demonstrating the core values outside of school. It brings the core values to life and students take ownership of them.

Congratulations to our entire school community for their significant contributions to the education and exceptional character development of our students. Your commitment and efforts play a crucial role in shaping the outstanding character of our students.

Sincerely,

Edward A. Salina

Edward A. Salina, Jr., Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools

2025 PROMISING PRACTICE

Character.org

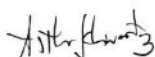
RECOGNIZES

John H. West Elementary School

AND THE PROMISING PRACTICE

**"Plainedge Perk: Brewed by students, served with heart!
Crafted together to foster friendship and community."**

Promising Practices are unique, effective, and replicable initiatives that inspire "goodness in action" and contribute to the field of character development. Each Promising Practice aligns with one or more of the principles articulated in Character.org's *11 Principles Framework*.



Arthur Schwartz
President
Character.org



Diana Dodson
Coordinator, Promising Practices
Character.org

2025 PROMISING PRACTICE

Character.org

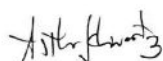
RECOGNIZES

Eastplain Elementary School

AND THE PROMISING PRACTICE

Eastplain Pride Sheets

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