



STMA Boys Basketball



Character Strong September Newsletter

The mission of STMA Basketball Program is to foster a culture of positivity where kids learn from success as well as failure, become elite basketball players and even better teammates; develop a diverse skill set in the present that will allow them to own their futures and fall in love with the game.



What is Character Strong?

Character Strong is a partnership between schools & families to create a place where students feel like they belong and learn skills that will help them be the best they can be. STMA School District implemented Character Strong in 2023 and lessons are being taught in grades PK-12.

What are the goals with Character Strong?

Character Strong has three goals:

1. Be Kind
2. Be Strong
3. Be Well

Character Strong Traits

September: Respect

October: Responsibility

November: Gratitude

December: Empathy

January: Perseverance

February: Honesty

March: Cooperation

April: Courage

May: Creativity

Purpose

Our aim extends beyond building a top-tier basketball program; we are also dedicated to shaping outstanding young men who will bring pride to our community.

Character Strong Trait of the Month: Respect



How can players show Respect?

- **Respecting Opponents:** Compete fairly without trash-talking or unsportsmanlike behavior.
- **Respecting Teammates:** Support and encourage each other, listen to teammates' ideas and share credit for successes.
- **Respecting Coaches & Officials:** Follow instructions, accept calls gracefully, and communicate respectfully.
- **Respect the Game:** Play with integrity, avoid cheating and bending the rules, and honor sports' traditions.
- **Respect Fans & Community:** Show gratitude to fans, behave as positive role models, clean-up after practices and games.

How can coaches show Respect?

- **Value Players:** Treat all players fairly, listen to their concerns, and recognize their efforts and progress.
- **Respecting Officials:** Accept referees' decisions without arguing, and model good sportsmanship (your players are always watching)
- **Encourage Positive Communication:** Speak kindly and constructively to players, families, and staff.
- **Promoting Teamwork:** Foster an inclusive environment where every player feels valued and supported.
- **Respecting the Game:** Teach and enforce the rules fairly, emphasizing integrity and fair play.
- **Being a Role Model:** Demonstrate respect in actions and words, setting a standard for players to follow.

How can families show Respect?

- **Encouraging Positive Behavior:** Support players and coaches with positive cheers and sportsmanship, avoiding negative comments or criticism during games.
- **Respecting Officials:** Accept referees' decisions calmly and avoid arguing or showing frustration publicly.
- **Supporting All Players:** Cheer for both your own child and teammates, recognizing everyone's effort and contribution.
- **Modeling Good Conduct:** Show respect to coaches, opponents, and other families by being courteous and polite.
- **Following Rules & Guidelines:** Abide by league or school policies regarding conduct, attendance, and participation.
- **Communicate Kindly:** Address concerns privately and respectfully rather than in front of players or other families.
- **Volunteering and Helping:** Offer help with team activities or events to foster a supportive community atmosphere.