

# Positive Recognition Program

## Eagle Award

### Character Education Mission

*B.C.M.S. is a place where we teach and model positive values in all aspects of our learning environment. Students, staff, and parents, strive to create an atmosphere of belonging and responsibility where our differences are celebrated. We respect and care for ourselves, each other, and our community.*

*(Character Education Committee, spring 2009)*

### **Purpose:**

- To recognize and encourage positive values, behaviors, and character among students in all aspects of our school community.
- To promote and enhance connections between and among students and staff.

**When to Give One:** The Eagle Award is a tool to recognize students whose actions may not rise to the level of a Character Award, but warrant more formal recognition. It is recommended that teachers and staff use these awards sparingly so as not to “water down” the effect of earning one.

Here is a quick summary of the difference between a Character Award and an Eagle Award:

- Eagle Award – for students who demonstrate **significant but less frequent** acts of kindness, courtesy, or cooperation, but who otherwise don’t meet the criteria of a character award; example: a student who stops to help a fellow student pick up their dropped books in the hall.
- Character Award – for students who display outstanding character on a **consistent** basis; example: a student who routinely goes out of their way to help others and volunteer for tasks.

### **How it works:**

- Staff will be given positive recognition awards/certificates (*Eagle Awards*) printed on half-sheets of cardstock. Staff members are invited to present these awards to students who demonstrate positive behavior and/or kindness and respect towards others. Students may keep these awards.
- Staff should then send an e-mail to Andy Baker in the Mohawk House Office with the name of the student who was recognized at a convenient time after giving the award.
- Staff members may also opt to bring the certificates down to the House Office so the House Leader can call the student down and present him or her with the award (in that case, an e-mail is not necessary).
- Staff will be given a small number of Eagle Awards to get started and may obtain more from their team leader or from their respective House Office.