

WHAT IS THE
T.R.U.E. INITIATIVE?

The TRUE Initiative is a Saginaw County-wide collaborative partnership between the Saginaw Intermediate School District, Creating Character, and a unified front of community schools, organizations, and agencies.

In July of 2006, the TRUE Initiative met with federal support and endorsement when it was selected as a Partnerships in Character Education Grant winner. This four-year, million-dollar-plus award will enable the TRUE Initiative to succeed at its vision to:

- T**each children about good character
- R**einforce that teaching
- U**nderstand the importance of good character
- E**ngage their lives in the best way possible

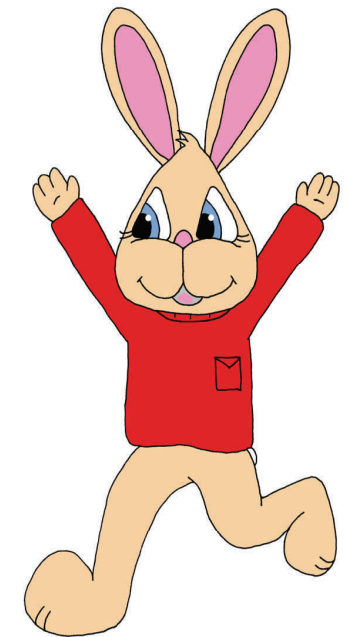
T.R.U.E.
CHARACTER!

- Trustworthiness**
- Respect**
- Responsibility**
- Fairness**
- Citizenship**
- Caring**
- Perseverance**
- Courage**
- Self-discipline**



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A SAGINAW ISD,
CREATING CHARACTER,
SAGINAW COMMUNITY
PARTNERSHIP

WHO IS PART OF THE
T.R.U.E. INITIATIVE?

With its goal of promoting strong character in Saginaw's schools, homes, and community-at-large, the TRUE Initiative has many supporters, but it began with Creating Character—a local character education curriculum development company—and the Saginaw ISD.

Once it was grant-funded, the TRUE Initiative garnered support from a multitude of others, now all TRUE members:

- [Saginaw Valley State U.](#)
- [Big Brothers/Big Sisters](#)
- [Saginaw Rescue Mission](#)
- [Habitat for Humanity](#)
- [Saginaw READ](#)
- [YMCA of Saginaw](#)
- [Boys and Girls Clubs](#)
- [Nearly 30 local public schools](#)

HOW DOES THE
T.R.U.E. INITIATIVE
WORK?

The centerpiece of the TRUE Initiative is Creating Character's *Peddlesfoots*. This curriculum is based around storybooks featuring a family of rabbits named the Peddlesfoots, and is designed to teach good character at the early childhood level. Being developed by local teachers, for teachers, the *Peddlesfoots* is easy-to-implement, standards-based, pilot-proven, and includes multi-media resources for teachers and parents.

The first step of the Initiative is to distribute this curriculum to supporting schools and agencies. As it is implemented, the developers provide periodic training for teachers, parents, and the partner organizations. Also ongoing is SVSU-facilitated evaluation of the Initiative.

WHAT'S NEXT FOR THE
T.R.U.E. INITIATIVE?

Years three and four of this important undertaking promise to be exciting ones. With continued success, the TRUE Initiative will move through its four-year cycle, provide character education curriculum and training to its valuable partners, and produce a revolutionary change in the character of Saginaw's youth.

Members of the Initiative can look forward to regular communication, but there are many ways to get even more information about TRUE, the *Peddlesfoots*, and how this project is progressing:

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