"Have You Filled Someone's Bucket Today?"

Dear Parents,

Character Counts! (CC!) is a nationally based program promoted in District 70 for over eleven years. District 70 strongly believes that character is taught at home and can be practiced in school and other places outside the home. Throughout the school year, students participate in activities focusing on the six pillars of Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring and Citizenship. The common language of these six pillars helps to improve classroom and school climate.

November 4th begins of our in-depth focus of the Pillar of Caring. We will continue to highlight this pillar throughout the months of November and December. In each school, teachers will promote the pillar of Caring by identifying and discussing the language and behaviors of a caring individual.

In the Character Counts program the color red is associated with the pillar of Caring. A Caring person is kind. A Caring person is compassionate and shows that they care. Caring people express gratitude and forgive others. A Caring person readily helps someone in need. A student can model caring by being kind to others, not being selfish and showing consideration of others' feelings. A Caring person will do a good deed and feel good because they have help to fill someone's bucket. Parents please notice the times your child is Caring and show how proud you are of his or her choice to be a bucket filler! Together, let's help our children understand this important character trait and its affect on both your life and that of your children!

7 CARING THOUGHTS TO BEING A BUCKET FILLER

- **C**are about others. Be kind, helpful, and sharing.
- **A**sk about other people. Be a good listener.
- **R**espect all people, property, animals, and the earth.
- **I**nclude others. Watch to see if anyone feels lonely or left out, and include that person.
- **N**ever hold a grudge. Forgive others, and they will probably forgive you, too.
- **G**ive to others. Help other people feel good, learn and grow.

On **Friday November 4th** the district will have a **Caring Pillar Friday**. On this day we encourage everyone to wear their red for Caring. Classroom teachers are encouraged to engage their class in a meaningful caring activity.

Thank you for reinforcing the Character Counts Pillars at home and being Bucket Fillers!

2011-2012 Character Counts! District Committee

Adler Park: Sue Warfel
Butterfield: Conna Rech, Kim Zilch
Copeland Manor: Gwen Travelstead, Janet Chickey
Rockland: Dale List
Highland: Mara Battaglia, Alan Esser, Michele Hernandez
Administration: Kathy Dinger