Achieving with Integrity (Awl) Seminar

Awl Alignment with Character.org's 11 Principles of Effective Character Education (2018)

Principle	Awl Alignment
1. The school community promotes core ethical and performance values as the foundation of good character.	In lesson one, participants are required to identify core ethical values for use as an ethical rubric to determine if a case qualifies as an ethical situation. This lesson requires teachers and students to define core ethical values, balance their list with moral and performance values and use them in their review of relevant cases.
2. The school defines "character" comprehensively to include thinking, feeling, and doing.	Lesson one and two focus on reasoning steps (thinking) using core ethical values, while lesson three is designed to have students develop a commitment, leading to an ethical identity (feeling) that supports moral action (doing).
3. The school uses a comprehensive, intentional, and proactive approach to character development that is integrated into subject matter and extracurricular activity.	The full Awl protocol represents an excellent integration of best content instruction and character education. Meaningful application, analysis and evaluation of academic content is supported by Awl along with the focus on core ethical values, which can encourage student ethical functioning and ethical identity leading to positive character formation.
4. The school creates a caring community.	Caring or an analogous term like kindness or empathy are widely recognized as core ethical values in schools. As such, any behavior that would compromise care would be considered an ethical compromise and the Awl protocol would guide students to seek an ethical alternative action thus supporting a caring community.
5. The school provides students with opportunities for moral action.	Responsibility, fairness and respect are often identified as core ethical values and each of these values would encourage students to respond to situations that would be mitigated by ethical action. Thus, Awl protocol would encourage students to take moral action to resist cheating, bullying and support school and community service.
6. The school offers a meaningful and challenging academic curriculum that respects all learners, develops their character, and helps them to succeed.	The Awl protocol describes multiple best teaching practices in seeking students to engage in meaningful discussions that seek analysis and evaluation of relevant cases, includes respect for student voice, makes application to student life and encourages student reflection with a focus on core ethical values and self-improvement.
7. The school fosters students' self-motivation.	Lesson three focuses on strategies for students to make a commitment to ethical character, which by definition, seeks to strengthen self-motivation to demonstrate positive character.
8. The school staff is an ethical learning community that shares responsibility for character education and adheres to the same core values that guide the students.	Awl represents a teacher professional development seminar to advance a robust character education strategy in secondary schools.
Principles 9-11	There is no clear alignment between these three principles and the goals of the Awl Seminar.