THOU SHALT NOT LIE, CHEAT, STEAL

Responsibility, honesty, respect and motivation — these are four ideal ingredients that help build character. That's the consensus of Pinellas County teachers, PTA members and members of nearly 100 organizations in the county that responded to a recent survey by USF's Ethics Center.

As a result, "Commitment to Character," pilot programs for kindergartners and first-graders and fourth- and fifth-graders that stress these traits, will be launched in several public and private schools this fall. The Ethics Center designed the program.

Walsingham and Eisenhower elementary schools are two pilot schools for the program, says Robert Huntley, education coordinator for the Ethics Center. The center is compiling a guidebook and other teaching materials for the program. Huntley adds that many teachers already try to cover character development informally in their classrooms.

"The idea we want to convey to students is that character counts," Huntley says. "We want to make the words 'responsibility,' 'honesty,' 'respect' and 'motivation' familiar to all students, because those words are the anchor for many other ethical concepts." By providing a common vocabulary for children from a very young age, ethical behavior expectations and standards can be firmly grounded, he adds.

Perhaps the most ticklish question is how one measures the results of instilling ethics into the curriculum.

"How do you measure if someone is nicer?" Huntley asks. "It's quantitatively difficult to measure, but it's something you know on a gut level." He suggests that lower referral rates to the office may be one way to gauge progress.

THE BIG MOVE

The Nelson Poynter Memorial Library at USF St. Petersburg closed July 29. The new Nelson Poynter Library was open for business by August 19. In between, the library staff moved 170,000 books, more than half a million microfilm documents, 1,200 different magazines the library subscribes to with years worth of back issues, significant historical archives and some 6,000 videos and cassettes.

"It was intense," says Lanny Greaves, Poynter Library director. "I've done this once before, and no matter how well you plan, there is always a glitch or two that you have to cope with on the fly." Before coming to USF St. Petersburg, Greaves was library director at Southeastern Louisiana University, where he supervised the move of about 300,000 books.

SERVICE AWARD

The Hillel Foundation at the University of South Florida has been selected to receive the 1996 William Haber Award for its outstanding programming for the campus Jewish community.

USF Hillel was selected for its program Havdallah Under The Stars, which featured a Havdallah service held in the MOSI planetarium. The service was followed by a lecture by Dr. William Heim on Judaism and its relation to the planets, and then a star show detailing the lecture and a tour of the night sky. This is the first time in USF Hillel's 23-year history that it received this prestigious award that is presented annually by the Hillel Foundation for Jewish Campus Life International Center.

"USF Hillel has come a long way, from nearly shutting our doors four years ago due to financial viability to winning a national award for creative programming," said Director Dan Berman. "The award really is a tribute to all the quality programs that we have done here and all the hard work put in by the students, staff and board of the Hillel Foundation at USF."

MILESTONES

Robert L. Anderson has been named dean of the College of Business. Anderson has been on the faculty since 1971 and over the past year served as interim dean.

W. Robert Sullins has been appointed dean of undergraduate relations. Sullins was previously a St. Petersburg Junior College administrator.

Elizabeth Lindsay '68 has been named chairperson of the Florida Board of Regents. A USF alumna, Lindsay has served as past president of the USF Alumni Association. See story Page 37.

Curtis Peterson, former Democratic state senate president who helped engineer legislative approval for the USF Lakeland campus in the 1980s, died in July during heart surgery. Peterson was 73.

Dr. Allan Goldman has been appointed chairperson of internal medicine at USF. A faculty member since 1974, Goldman was selected for this position following a nationwide search.