

The Colorado Springs School
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NEWS

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NOT SATISFIED WITH THE STATUS QUO ---- STUDENTS AT THE COLORADO SPRINGS SCHOOL COIN NEW VOCABULARY WORD

Colorado Springs, Colo. – Students in Ms. Chelukhova’s Ethics Class at The Colorado Springs School (CSS) have coined a new vocabulary word, “leuricy.” Through the course of class discussions based on the readings of Philip Hallie’s “From Cruelty to Goodness”, the students were mystified why the English language did not have a true antonym for the word “cruelty.” Isn’t “kindness” or “mercy” a close enough antonym to cruelty? The students were not satisfied, their research persisted, and they collaboratively developed a word and supporting definitions.

“The creation of this word is a good exemplifier of the development of our school culture, the active development of knowledge, and student empowerment as inventors and change agents,” said Linda Harris, Head of the Upper School at The Colorado Springs School.

The students submitted the word to Wikipedia, a free online dictionary and are embarking upon a campaign to educate others regarding their new word. Additionally, the students have attempted to contact Oprah and Ellen DeGeneres in an effort to raise awareness about their new word. As defined by the students, the official entry of “leuricy” is as follows:

English

Noun

leuricy (*plural* leuricy)

1. Utter absence of hurtful and ill intentions
2. Characterized by hospitality and a freedom from cruel relationship.

Antonyms

- Cruelty

When asked why they felt it was important to invent such a word, students responded:

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“If there is a word that defines the utter absence of hurtful and ill intentions, then maybe people can learn the concept,” said Monica Finger, junior at The Colorado Springs School.

“This word is important and crucial because not only does it show an active stance in trying to fight cruelty, said Ethan Gilbert, senior at The Colorado Springs School. “It also shows that it can be opposed and that there is a word equally as strong and opposite. Actually, it’s Newton’s third law...it’s science!”

“Leuricy is an ideal essential to our society,” replied Britt Ford, junior at The Colorado Springs School. “With the introduction of leuricy, we can only hope that the ideals it represents become attainable. It makes the end of cruelty tangible.”

“Leuricy is an important word because we are limited to our words. The English language only has a certain number of words, and so new words need to be used to describe emotions which don’t fit neatly into the “box” of another word,” said Levi Schmeiler, senior at The Colorado Springs School.

The students were asked to use their new word in a sentence. Following are some of the uses arranged by the students:

“Leuricyly he spoke to the troubled woman, lending her words of wisdom that seemed to gracefully dance from his mouth to her ears,” wrote Lauren Price, junior at The Colorado Springs School.

“The boy ended his relationship with leuric actions and consequently the couple is now friends,” composed Ryan Acuff, junior at The Colorado Springs School.

“The end of war is a leuric goal, as war is a great source of cruelty and leuricy is an opposite to all cruelty – but leuricy is not hostile to those who are cruel, for its hospitality is totally unconditional,” penned Calum MacKenzie, junior at The Colorado Springs School.

“The debate was held in a leuric manner --- both parties were civil and equal, and no jabs were made,” offered Monica Finger, junior at The Colorado Springs School.

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Interviews, television and photography access can be arranged by contacting Jessica James, Director of Communications at The Colorado Springs School, at 719-434-3506 or at jjames@css.org.

About the Colorado Springs School (CSS)

CSS offers an experiential educational curriculum for Pre-Kindergarten – 12th graders. Through superior academics and mentoring, The Colorado Springs School prepares students to think independently and to meet the needs of a dynamic world with leadership, ingenuity, problem-solving skills, and personal integrity. For more information, call 719-475-9747 or visit www.css.org.

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