

# RIDGEMONT LOCAL SCHOOL- *How we do business.*

## Beliefs Inspire Vision:

Our core business is engaging students in real life experiences, as such:

We believe:

-the learning experience should be centered on student voice, passion, and ownership.

-collaboration among partners empowers, challenges, supports, guides, and makes us unafraid to innovate.

-in the freedom to fail and grow as we explore new ways to think and do.

-service is our tool to instill a productive connection with community and meaningful life experiences for our staff and students.

-rigorous academics are foundational to collaboration, innovation, and service which cause us to explore boundaries and redefine them.

-our staff and students bring value to the world and should always be treated with the highest integrity.

## Vision: **DESIGNING THE FUTURE**

**Mission:** In designing the future, Ridgemont Local School will create partnerships with our families and community which broaden minds to learn and serve through collaboration, innovation, and rigorous academics for life's learning journey.

**Principles:** We are moving from a bureaucratic institution to a learning organization. We have designed a 21st century learning facility in our new PreK-12 building. Both our building and our instructional designs are founded on these principles. At Ridgemont, we believe in:

1. Service and project based learning which addresses real world problems for real world audiences.
2. Customized student learning based on student need and readiness which uses technology as a primary tool.
3. Deeper, amplified learning which makes principles one and two purposeful and engaging to students.

## Gopher Traits Support and are a Result of our Principles:

1. **Determination** - the grit to persevere in a task or belief and see it through to completion
2. **Empathy** - Sharing in the feelings of others even when they are quite different from us; demonstrating compassion and understanding
3. **Cognitive Flexibility**- able to change one's perspective based on receptivity to new ideas as well as thinking about multiple concepts simultaneously.
4. **Innovation** - using creative and critical thinking skills to problem solve with original ideas, devices, or methods
5. **Humor**- a positiveness that is able to laugh at one's self and find joy in unexpected situations

## Instructional Strategies to Support our Principles:

1. Service-Learning
2. Project Based Learning
3. Co-teaching - across disciplines and grade levels
4. Differentiation
5. Subject Integration
6. Technology Integration

## Partnerships Make our Mission Possible:

**Students** are creators of innovative and engaging products that demonstrate depth of understanding.

**Parents** are partners with the school and community to support individual student success.

**Staff** members are designers of irresistible environments where students are engaged to create and are motivated to become lifelong learners.

**Teachers** are designers of irresistible learning opportunities where students are engaged to create and are motivated to become lifelong learners.

**Principals** are creators of irresistible climates where staff take risks to innovate strategies that engage students.

The **Superintendent** is the moral and intellectual leader of leaders who establishes and maintains a unified direction for the school district focused on staff and student engagement.

**Board Members** are advocates for the integrity, ability and character of the learning organization.

**Community Members** are a collective group of advocates who contribute to the elevation of the local society by supporting authentic learning opportunities to engage all students.