

# CORE VALUES

## The Short List

- Developing relevance of curriculum to the real world and individual interests
- Common teachers with common groups of students
- Resource labs that use technology to aid in basic skill development
- Period length flexibility for different types of courses

## The Details

*Keep it simple, do it well  
Focus on strengths and passions*

### **Developing relevance of curriculum to the real world and individual interests**

Concept: Students will be more engaged in learning academic material if they see purpose and relationships to their own interests.

### **More connections with RCC**

Concept: Students are more likely to continue higher education if they have a “foot in the door” and downfalls of small schools may include lack of staff, physical resources and course variety may be supplemented by RCC offerings.

### **Common teachers with common groups of students**

Concept: Studies indicate that one of the most deciding factors in student motivation is the relationship with teachers. Common teachers with common groups of students decreases the likelihood of students falling through the cracks, allowing more individualized education through familiarity of students; and allows for integration of curriculum when desired.

### **Lifelong fitness**

Concept: Childhood obesity and preventable healthcare issues have become commonplace in our culture. Adapting

lifelong enjoyable habits will provide Crater grads with a higher quality of life.

### **Six year plan**

Concept: Developing an individual plan for each student for his or her four years at Crater and two years after provides relevance, a pathway, and criteria for periodic review of student performance on an individual basis.

### **Resource labs**

Concept: The use of technology driven labs where students can work on individual needs in a self paced environment including math, reading, writing, SAT prep, language, and online courses especially in areas shortchanged in a small school structure.

### **Intersessions**

Concept: Providing required two week (all school?) sessions between regular terms where students can have intensive study in specific areas. This allows for more opportunities in travel, foreign language immersion, extracurricular activities, and more elaborate recreational/PE opportunities.

### **Advisory**

Concept: Increased personalization for all students is enhanced if more educators share and increase the level of advisory services.

### **Privilege system**

Concept: Students have required elements (such as shorter lunches or study halls) as younger students that may be phased out if acceptable progress is being made.

### **Collaboration**

Concept: Both student and teacher performance and accountability are improved if schedules creatively allow for specific systems of teacher collaboration.

### **Period length flexibility**

Concept: Different types of learning require different time allocations ranging from longer less frequent class meetings to shorter more frequent class meetings.

### **Community/Parents exhibits of learning**

Concept: Community and parent communication is improved while increasing student accountability with the use of community/parent exhibits of learning.

### **Student ownership**

Concept: Developing a culture of student ownership in the school they attend will improve motivation.