# RHS CORE VALUES and VISION

Mission: To prepare all students to excel in a diverse, dynamic and global society.

The bullets under each core area are provided in an effort to help articulate the RHS Core Values. These core areas encompass our vision and will be the basis for which we determine school improvement. The pronoun "we" refers to all school stakeholders (community, staff, parents, and students).

1. Character Development: RHS recognizes its responsibility to student growth extends beyond academics. Riverbend is committed to developing integrity and strength of character in all of its students. At RHS, we...

- Ensure that academic honor and integrity are cornerstones of learning in every classroom.
- Encourage stakeholders to assume a shared responsibility for fostering ethical values and a sense of community both during school activities and throughout the community.
- Model professional and ethical standards.
- Create and uphold an environment where students take responsibility for their decisions and actions.
- Create and uphold a climate where mutual respect among stakeholders is clearly evident.
- Support high standards for attendance through both encouragement, communication, and modeling.

2. Community Involvement: At RHS we value the role of the community in our school and understand that when we come together for the good of our students, the benefits are infinite. At RHS, we...

- Create a welcoming atmosphere for all stakeholders.
- Foster open communication and create an atmosphere of transparency between stakeholders.
- Seek input from all stakeholders in the school improvement process.
- Encourage and empower stakeholders to take an active role in improving their community through various venues such as student government, parent/student organizations, business partners, volunteer groups, and extracurricular activities.
- Share in the responsibility of supporting the RHS mission.

3. Inclusive Environment: At RHS we understand that the school community is a diverse group with varied needs, and we value and respect all differences. At RHS, we...

- Promote an awareness and appreciation of individuality and diversity.
- Demonstrate mutual respect and openness between all stakeholders.
- Demonstrate a commitment to meeting the academic, physical, and developmental needs of all students.
- Share the belief that positive relationships between all teachers, students, and other stakeholders are instrumental to a positive learning environment.

4. Rigorous Academic Structure: At RHS we value a rigorous learning environment that will prepare all students for whatever career or school path they take after high school. At RHS, we...

- Set and uphold high academic expectations for all students as evidenced by rigorous instruction and assessments.
- Implement the appropriate curriculum via creative and differentiated lessons.

- Inspire students to take ownership and responsibility in their learning.
- Provide an environment where challenges are embraced and mistakes are viewed as opportunities for growth.
- Model lifelong learning.
- Create lessons that will help develop the 21st Century skills that our students will need to be competitive once they leave RHS.
- Create a culture open to change where new instructional strategies and programs are developed and evaluated for their impact on student achievement.
- Remain abreast of current educational research and be open to proven educational strategies that align with the RHS vision.

5. Safe and Secure Environment: RHS is a school that provides a safe and secure learning environment for all students. A safe environment is recognized as an essential foundation for student academic success. At RHS, we maintain...

- A physical environment that is well-maintained and conducive to learning.
- An environment that is free of alcohol, drugs, bullying, and violence.
- A learning environment where students and teachers feel secure in their physical and emotional well-being.
- A system of disciplinary and safety protocols that are followed consistently.
- An environment where staff and students are well-informed and pro-active in handling potential threats to school safety

6. School Spirit: At RHS we value and understand the importance that school spirit has on one's overall educational experience. In order to better promote school spirit at RHS we...

- Develop, continue, and promote RHS traditions.
- Create an atmosphere of enthusiasm and structured support for all school events and student organizations.
- Frequently celebrate individual and group accomplishments as a tradition of shared responsibility and privilege.
- Demonstrate pride and excited about our school and willingly participate in school events.
- Widely recognize students and faculty throughout the school.

7. Teamwork: RHS values teamwork and recognizes collaboration as the foundation for success. At RHS, we ...

- Value and encourage open and honest dialogue between stakeholders regarding the decision-making process.
- Embed time for colleagues to collaborate into the daily routines of the school.
- Embrace opportunities for teams of teachers to routinely and frequently come together to discuss common assessments, student work, and intervention strategies.
- Take ownership and actively participate in the School Improvement Process
- Exhibit a positive attitude where teams work together to eagerly seek answers to problems.
- Promote two-way communication and create an atmosphere where all staff are considered approachable by our stakeholders.