



Ridgeview Classical Schools

1800 South Lemay Avenue, Fort Collins, CO 80525 (970) 494-4620

A classical education for modern times.

PRESS RELEASE: 14 DECEMBER 2006

RIDGEVIEW CLASSICAL HIGH SCHOOL NUMBER ONE FOR SECOND YEAR IN A ROW

Ridgeview Classical Schools' high school is now ranked for the second year in a row the number one public high school in the state of Colorado. The ranking is based on the results of the annual School Accountability Report (SAR) that were released last week by the Colorado Department of Education.

Ridgeview's teachers, students, administration, and board were extremely pleased by the results. The school's principal, Dr. T. O. Moore, attributes the school's success to the knowledge and dedication of the teachers, the solid curriculum, and the hard work of the students. "Education is not rocket science," according to Moore. "All you need are smart and knowledgeable teachers, great books, and willing students. That has been our recipe for success the past five years." Ridgeview is a K-12 charter school in its sixth year of operation. In the high school, students encounter the great works of history and literature through original sources and great books, dwell on the advanced concepts in mathematics and the sciences, and are required to take several staples of a classical curriculum, including Latin and moral philosophy. Students also have the opportunity to take electives in art and music.

One thing that might surprise most other schools and the general public is that Ridgeview does no CSAP preparation. The founders of the school believed and the school has proven that success on standardized tests is the result of a solid curriculum, not a short-sighted attempt to beat the test. According to the students at the school, after reading and writing papers on authors such as Homer, Shakespeare, and Milton, taking the CSAP tests is not much of a challenge.

Ridgeview's numbers are impressive: 100% of 9th and 10th graders either proficient or advanced in reading on the SAR, 93% proficient or advanced in writing, and 75% proficient or advanced in mathematics, compared to state averages of 67%, 51%, and 35%, respectively. The eleventh-grade ACT scores that figured into the SAR were 26.77 in reading, 26.33 in writing, and 25.27 in mathematics versus state averages of 19.41, 18.22 and 18.86. In addition, Ridgeview's senior class has four National Merit Semifinalists this year out of a graduating class of 26. As impressive as these scores are, what really sets Ridgeview apart is the dynamism of the class discussions in the humanities, the sciences, languages, and the arts. Ridgeview students would not learn so much if classes were not engaging and the students did not enjoy their learning.

POC: T. O. Moore, Ph.D., Principal, tmoore@ridgeviewclassical.com, 970-494-4620