



SAGE RIDGE

SCHOOL

CULTIVATING CHARACTER AND INTELLECT

RENO'S ONLY NON-SECTARIAN, INDEPENDENT, PRIVATE,
COLLEGE-PREPARATORY DAY SCHOOL FOR GRADES 3-12

OUR MISSION

Sage Ridge School graduates curious and confident citizens who embrace rigorous **SCHOLARSHIP, RESPECT** the dignity of individuals, choose **INTEGRITY**, embody **COURAGE**, cultivate a compassionate **COMMUNITY**, and ultimately thrive in college and in our global society.

Gabe Ludwick ('30) talks about the importance of the Sage Ridge Pillars during Coffeehouse, a favorite Sage Ridge tradition that celebrates our school's diverse and exceptional talents.



OUR STORY

In 1996, a handful of Reno families imagined the perfect school for their children. It would be a school for any student from any family committed to learning. Classes would be taught by inspiring teachers who could challenge young adolescents to reach for excellence in a lively, supportive environment. The curriculum would offer a rigorous college-prep education. Set in the high desert of the Sierras, Sage Ridge would engage students with its magnificent landscape and promote environmental stewardship. Most importantly, the founders chose five “pillars” to guide students in all of their efforts: Scholarship, Respect, Integrity, Courage, and Community.

Schools like this existed elsewhere, of course, but these families did not want to enroll their children in boarding schools. Instead, they decided to build that school themselves, right here in the Biggest Little City, Reno, Nevada.

None of it was easy. The founders sacrificed their time, their financial resources, and their energy. Even after the doors first opened, the young school still needed support to grow to a sustainable size. More families joined Sage Ridge as they too realized the opportunity this education afforded their children, their city, and their community.

As we celebrate 25 years, Sage Ridge is on the map of world-class schools. First-rate faculty nurture a genuine love of learning. Our students shine with the confidence that comes from high achievement and strength of character. They thrive at the nation’s top colleges and universities, and beyond. Meet a Sage Ridge graduate, and you will discover a keen problem solver who communicates with poise, clarity, and self-assurance.

OUR BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Sallie Armstrong	Cheenu Sandhu
Steve Cotton	Michelle Sherven
Eric Gangloff	Ranson Webster
Karen Hovorka	Steve Welch
Karl Hutter	Rick Welcome



"What seems to happen, no matter what grade a student enters, is an immediate feeling of assimilation within the Sage Ridge community. The support that a new student feels is one of the greatest things about Sage Ridge."

- Kira Romberg (SRS '22, Wellesley '26)



Upper School Scorpions enjoying time together in the sunshine during their lunch break.

THE WAY SCHOOL SHOULD BE

Our vision is to inspire passion and purpose through the joy of learning.

Independent schools are designed to teach in the ways students best learn and to support the growth and development of their character. The result is transformative. This has always been the mission of Sage Ridge School. We seek to foster strong relationships and deep commitments to the search for knowledge across all levels of the community to support students on the journey from learner to leader.

PORTRAIT OF A GRADUATE

Sage Ridge School graduates global citizens who demonstrate Scholarship, Respect, Integrity, Courage, and Community.

"Community looks like when people work together to help and incorporate people into a society. When I started at a new school, everyone was kind. I wanted to be part of that community because of the people within."

– **Viola Charles ('28)**

"Courage looks like when I have to show off my theatre skills to the public. It makes me exhilarated and scared. In life, you have to take a leap of faith to achieve your desires and show courage."

– **Loz McKenzie ('28)**

SUPPORTING THE WHOLE FAMILY

When a family joins Sage Ridge, students are inducted into a life-long community, and so are parents and guardians. We consistently hear that parents are grateful to be a part of a network of adults who are passionate about education. Our Parents Association, Parent Education Series, and community events provide a vibrant community for the whole family.



View all school statistics at
sageridge.org/facts

FAST FACTS

11

STUDENTS PER CLASS ON AVERAGE

98%

STUDENTS EARN AP SCORES OF 3+

20%

STUDENT BODY RECEIVES FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

70%

FACULTY WITH ADVANCED DEGREES

19

AVERAGE YEARS OF TEACHING EXPERIENCE
PER FACULTY MEMBER

60

MINIMUM HOURS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE
REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION

2

SIGNATURE PROGRAMS
OUTDOOR EDUCATION WEEK AND SAGE SESSIONS
FOR GRADES 3-12

PLATINUM AP SCHOOL

HONOR ROLL (COLLEGE BOARD)

#1 BEST COLLEGE PREP

PRIVATE SCHOOL IN THE RENO AREA (NICHE)

RANKED IN THE TOP 1%

OF HIGH SCHOOLS NATIONALLY
(CHALLENGE INDEX)



PREPARED FOR COLLEGE & CAREER SUCCESS

The NAIS-Gallup report on independent school graduates (2017) found that compared with graduates of other high schools, independent school graduates complete their degrees more quickly and are less likely to transfer during their undergraduate careers. This is critical because consistent progression through college is linked with financial advantages – lower student debt and higher starting salaries – as well as higher career satisfaction and well-being later in life.

Lilli De Jonghe (SRS '22, Barnard '26) and Samantha Kenyherz (SRS '22, Boston University '26) visited campus as a part of our Young Grads Return event to speak to Upper Schoolers about their college experiences.

ASK OUR GRADUATES

The best testimonials come from those who have experienced the long-lasting benefits that a Sage Ridge education provides. We are incredibly proud of the impact our alumni are having on the world.



"My SRS education has played a role in my academic success in college and even in winning the Truman Scholarship. Teachers like Dr. McGann and Mr. Sloyan worked wonders in terms of improving my writing skills, and I have no doubt that my Truman application stood out because of what they taught me."

- Carla Ramazan (SRS '17, University of Texas-Dallas '21, Truman Scholar)



"Sage Ridge School gave me the space to engage with curiosity. I learned to lead with curiosity instead of certainty. The start-up culture of the school taught me that if I don't know how to do something, I can figure it out, and this has been invaluable in my career."

Kristan Brown (SRS '05, Whitman College '09, MFA at Rutgers '13, Studio Manager at Terry Knickerbocker Studio in Brooklyn)




"Sage Ridge provided me with a foundation of knowledge and a network of friendships from which I continue to benefit to this day. I will forever be grateful to the faculty, staff, and students of Sage Ridge for everything they have given me."

- Mat Trachok (SRS '05, Yale '09, Harvard Law School '12, Senior Associate at WilmerHale)



Watch alumni interviews at
[sageridge.org/alumni](https://www.sageridge.org/alumni)

A photograph of a diverse group of students in a classroom. Many students have their hands raised, indicating active participation. The students are wearing maroon polo shirts with a school logo. The background is slightly blurred, showing a typical classroom setting with bookshelves and posters.

"Excellence is not one-size-fits-all. It is individual. Ultimately, it is a pact we make with ourselves – a choice of how we want to be in the world."

– Dr. Tara McGann, English Department Chair

Lower School Scorpions raise their hands to volunteer to participate in a performance by Reno Taiko Tsurunokai, a Japanese drum group.

3 SCHOOLS, 1 CAMPUS

LOWER SCHOOL: GRADES 3-5

Our youngest scholars are always active. They are hungry for knowledge and our teachers keep pace with their eagerness through a myriad of techniques that encourage hands-on engagement and critical thinking.

- Laboratory sciences, physical education, the arts, and computer science are a part of our core curriculum.
- Foreign language classes begin.
- Students acquire study and organizational skills and engage in collaborative learning.
- Athletics start in Grade 5, providing early opportunities for young students to try new sports.
- Robotics and performing arts opportunities.

MIDDLE SCHOOL: GRADES 6-8

Sage Ridge teachers see middle school as a rich and rewarding time of growth. Our teachers meet the challenges of these years because they possess content knowledge, teaching expertise, and a deep understanding of how to support social-emotional learning

- Physical education classes and electives rotation continue. Creativity, Innovation, and Design classes begin.
- Robotics, student government, and clubs provide opportunities for students to learn new skills and further develop talents.
- Advanced math for accelerated learners.
- Foreign language classes continue.
- Middle Schoolers can participate in a variety of athletics each season.

UPPER SCHOOL: GRADES 9-12

Everything about our high school experience prepares students to excel in their college of choice. Leadership skills are cultivated through vast opportunities to create a lasting impact.

- Freshman Seminar equips students with critical thinking tools and sharpens public speaking skills.
- 15 varsity athletic teams provide opportunities for all students – whether they are preparing to play at the collegiate level or wanting to try something new.
- Advanced science classes prepare students for pre-medical college tracks or research positions early on in their college careers.
- Students can elect to take multiple years of computer science classes, including at the AP and post-AP levels, and can access technology in the Innovation Lab.
- International students add a global dimension.
- Multiple arts programs, including classes at the AP level, allow students to advance in various dimensions of visual, digital, and performing arts.
- Student government, prefecture, honor council, debate, robotics, mock trial and athletics all cultivate leadership skills.
- The Senior experience fully prepares students for the transition to college.
- Our full-time college counselor works with students beginning in 8th grade to help them begin thinking about college and career goals. Full support is provided throughout the intensive process of college selection and application during junior and senior years.



AP & HONORS CLASSES

- AP Biology
- AP Calculus AB
- AP Calculus BC
- AP Chemistry
- AP Computer Science A
- AP Computer Science Principles
- AP English Language and Composition
- AP English Literature and Composition
- AP Environmental Science
- AP Latin
- AP Physics I
- AP Precalculus
- AP Psychology
- AP Statistics
- AP Studio Art
 - AP 2D Art and Design
 - AP 3D Art and Design
- AP United States Government and Politics
- AP United States History
- AP World History: Modern
- Honors Algebra II
- Honors Biology
- Honors Chemistry
- Honors English
- Honors Latin
- Honors Spanish



Upper School students raise their hands to answer a question in Honors Precalculus.

CURRICULUM HIGHLIGHTS

Something special is happening at Sage Ridge School. Students obtain content knowledge in the liberal arts and sciences disciplines while acquiring invaluable problem-solving and critical-thinking skills that are vital to success in the 21st century.

WHY LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES?

Our current students are preparing for careers that have not yet been conceived. The skills and disciplines that are integral to a liberal arts education are the ones that future careers will need. Employers are looking for the ability to discern new patterns, critique arguments, research, and communicate collaboratively – and authoritatively – all while being ethically driven. These are skills that no amount of content expertise will be able to address.

AP PROGRAM

You may hear other high school students say they are taking 5-7 AP classes a year, but are they really taking a college-level class? Our AP classes result in students who can pass their AP exams, thus validating our curriculum as equivalent to a real college course. All of our students who receive AP credit on their transcripts are required to sit for the exam. Our pass rates are the highest in the region, with 98% of students earning AP Scores of 3+. Sage Ridge is listed on the 2023 AP School Honor Roll as a Platinum school.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Community service is both an integral part of our curriculum and a graduation requirement. For many students, it becomes a way of life that brings purpose to learning and direction to career paths. All grade levels participate in community service projects. Starting in Grade 10, a minimum of service hours are required per year to receive a Sage Ridge diploma.

SAGE SESSION

Every May, Sage Ridge students experience Sage Session, a two-week period during which students participate in elective and enrichment classes taught by Sage Ridge faculty. These courses enhance the students' academic experience and our core curriculum. Classes vary every year and often involve travel or extensive field trips. An international trip is offered as well.



View our full curriculum guide at sageridge.org/curriculum





"One of the main things that stood out to me at Sage Ridge has just been how many opportunities a small school comes with. Because we have such a close relationship with our teachers, we have the opportunity to do activities we normally wouldn't have the opportunity to do at a bigger school."

**- Aryan Shukla (SRS '20,
University of Southern California '24)**

Heath Fellows ('23) works on a painting for art class.

ELECTIVES & EXTRACURRICULARS

Building upon the foundation of our core curriculum, Sage Ridge students are invited to enhance their educational experience through elective courses and extracurricular activities. These opportunities provide students with additional knowledge and skills on their journeys to satisfying and impactful careers.

ELECTIVES

Students in Grades 3-8 take physical education during one of their elective blocks and have a rotation of arts (music, theatre, and visual art) and computer science classes.

In Grade 6, students take both Latin and Spanish classes and then choose one language to continue in Grade 7. Both language programs provide dynamic cultural and linguistic experiences.

Upper School students have the opportunity to expand upon previous electives in both the arts and STEM. Upper School electives include AP Psychology, AP Studio Art, Ceramics, Advanced Theatre, Music Ensemble, Media Arts, Human Anatomy and Physiology, AP Physics, AP Environmental Science, AP Chemistry, AP Statistics, AP Computer Science, and more.

THEATRE

The art of performance includes crucial skills and strategies for success in all future pursuits. Sage Ridge students typically produce and perform three main-stage productions each year – two plays and one musical. Participation in the cast or crew is vital to each production. Our students also compete in thespian tournaments across the state and nation for acting, singing, stage management, costume construction, and more!

SPEECH & DEBATE

Students prepare for and compete at local tournaments that are hosted by the National Speech and Debate Association. Students quickly learn how to present themselves with confidence, think on their feet, and control their thoughts even as they are being cross-examined. Besides the numerous skills they gain, they also join a unique, cohesive community.

JUNIOR CLASSICAL LEAGUE

The purpose of the National Junior Classical League is to encourage an interest in and an appreciation of the language, literature, and culture of ancient Greece and Rome. Members have the opportunity to travel to state and national conventions and assume leadership positions, often at the state or national level.

MOCK TRIAL

Mock Trial is a competition in which students simulate a real trial and compete against other teams in the region. Participating in Mock Trial is a fantastic way for students to build confidence in their public speaking and gain highly beneficial legal knowledge and experience in mock civil and criminal cases.



"The Sage Ridge athletics program has been a fantastic experience for me... not only do we take sports seriously, but we expect to excel. I've been a part of teams led by passionate coaches who expect nothing but the best from us. The strong presence of community is the real value of athletics at Sage Ridge because it really helps define what sets us apart as Sage Ridge students."

- Nate Mulvaney (SRS '21, Duke University '25)



Varsity Boys Basketball competes against Galena High School.

ATHLETICS

Sage Ridge Scorpions are not afraid of the mental and physical work required to be Scholar-Athletes. Teams are supportive communities that champion students' goals -- whether the goal is to play in college or simply try something new. With 24 sports teams and our new 24,000-square-foot Student Activity Center, there is always a game to attend to support our Scorpions!

Sage Ridge is committed to excellence in athletics, just as it is committed to excellence in academics, the arts, and each of the other key elements of education that address the whole student. What does excellence in athletics mean?

- We invest in high-quality coaches who develop players' skills, set high goals and standards of excellence, inspire team play and strong work ethic, are deeply committed to helping student-athletes advance to the next level, and develop a culture that emphasizes a winning spirit.
- We allocate the financial resources to our athletics program necessary to compete at the appropriate level and provide opportunities to our student-athletes. We develop a robust non-conference schedule and travel outside the region when appropriate.
- For our student-athletes who wish to play at the collegiate level, our coaches help to facilitate opportunities, including recording and providing highlight tapes, opening access to and navigating AAU programs, and pursuing ranking opportunities and visibility.

Sage Ridge's academic strength opens up opportunities with athletics, including playing for D1 schools. For the serious athlete, it offers academic preparedness at the collegiate level and lifelong skills beyond athletics, increasing the success quotient for student-athletes who decide to play at the next level.

SCORPION ATHLETICS

- Soccer*
 - Basketball*
 - Cross Country*
 - Track & Field*
 - Volleyball*
 - Golf*
 - Ski*
 - Swimming*
- * Boys & Girls Teams at both Upper and Middle School levels
* Girls only at both Upper and Middle School levels
* Boys & Girls Teams at the Upper School level only



Learn more about Scorpion Athletics at sageridge.org/athletics



"During Outdoor Education, I got to make new friends and learn more about some of my fellow students and teachers who pushed me out of my comfort zone. I am happy that they did because now I feel I can do more than I could before."

- Nanki Sandhu ('25)



Grade 9 Scorpions went kayaking during their Outdoor Education adventure. They also learned how to sail and dissect marine animals.

OUTDOOR EDUCATION

We hear it all the time: Sage Ridge students' best memories and relationships often have roots in Outdoor Education Week!

To set each school year up for success, students and faculty embark together on memorable journeys full of meaningful challenges and connections. These trips allow students to grow in a unique setting while fostering an appreciation for the natural world.

While our youngest grades participate in day trips from campus, students in Grades 5-12 leave Reno Monday-Friday for overnight excursions in a range of stunning natural locations.

TYPICAL ACTIVITIES ENJOYED DURING OUTDOOR EDUCATION WEEK INCLUDE:

- Hiking
- Sailing
- Camping
- Swimming
- Kayaking
- Rock Climbing
- Cultural or Historical Museums/Landmarks
- Ecology Lessons
- Ropes Courses
- Ziplining
- Rafting

"I got to learn about climbing and faced my fear of rappelling. It was a good lesson because I think this courage can apply to everything every day – to try new things and be brave."

- **Nathan Brodsky ('27)**

"One of my favorite parts of the year was Outdoor Ed...it really brought us together as a class. Outdoor Ed really did exactly what it said it was going to do: it was education in the outdoors. It wasn't necessarily education about the outdoors, although that happened; we were being educated by our teachers 24/7 while we were outdoors and it was really a great way to learn."

- **Brett Webster (SRS '08, Kenyon College '12, MS at UNR '17, Business Process Improvement Manager at H&T Nevada)**



Learn more at sageridge.org/student-life/outdoor-education



"Students exude an ardent drive to expand their knowledge, grow as individuals, and strive to be the best versions of themselves. By finding strength in the tight-knit community, students are able to excel in promoting a steadfast respect for one another, courage to grow through all of their challenges, and constant support to improve their scholarship. The Pillars have helped guide students to be the best they could possibly be."

-Madeline Dutton ('23)



Danny and Jojo WebsterPeck ('32) learn how to fly drones with the help of our technology department.

INNOVATION

In 2018, Sage Ridge received a grant from the Edwin L. Wiegand Trust to enhance technology education and innovation at the school.

Sage Ridge gives students access to a myriad of tools and resources, including:

- 3D printing
- Virtual reality experiences
- Adobe Creative Cloud software
- Photography, video, and podcasting equipment
- Drones
- Poster printing
- Robotics
- Engineering projects

Many classes utilize the equipment and expertise of our outstanding STEAM teachers for a wide range of applications, including:

- Virtual reality "travel" in foreign language classes
- Student-created 360-degree experiences for Free Reading projects
- 3D printed mechanical parts for motion units in physics class
- Green screen photo projects and digital editing for art classes
- Audio equipment in music classes to teach audio production



COLLEGE MATRICULATIONS

2018-2023

American University
Amherst College
Barnard College
elon uBaylor University
Boise State University
Boston College
Boston University
Brandeis University
Brown University
California Polytechnic State University
California Baptist University
Case Western Reserve University
Chapman University
Clark University
Dartmouth College
Duke University
Emory University
Goucher College
Haverford College
Indiana University, Bloomington
Lewis & Clark College
Louisiana State University
Montana State University
Middlebury College
New York University
Northeastern University
Northwestern University
Northern Arizona University
Occidental College
Pepperdine University
Pitzer College
Purdue University
Reed College
Rochester Institute of Technology
Santa Clara University
Southern Methodist University
Syracuse University
Tufts University
United States Naval Academy
University of California - Berkeley
University of California - Davis
University of California - Irvine
University of California - San Diego
University of California - Santa Barbara
University of California - Santa Cruz
University of Chicago
University of Colorado, Boulder
University of Delaware
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
University of Maryland
University of Minnesota
University of Nevada, Reno
University of North Carolina
University of Oregon
University of Southern California
University of Toronto
University of Utah
Villanova University
Washington University
Wellesley College
Wheaton College
Whittier College
Willamette University



Graduation Ceremony for the Class of 2019

READY FOR COLLEGE

With expectations of college in mind, the senior year at Sage Ridge School has become a rite of passage.

SENIOR EXPERIENCE

- **Senior Seminar:** a college-level course that asks seniors to critically examine the historical and cultural genesis of the foundational values of our representative system of governance and agreements about civil or human rights.
- **Senior Thesis:** a 15-20 page research paper that presents seniors with the opportunity to undertake the sustained, thoughtful, and deep exploration of a topic of their choosing.
- **Research Symposium:** seniors host a formal presentation of their research to board members, parents, teachers, younger students, and the greater Reno community.
- **Senior Internship:** seniors are required to plan, design, and implement an internship experience in an area of interest to them. In the past, opportunities have included veterinary science, law, communications, engineering, merchandising, education, banking, business, medicine, and journalism.

Combined with our regular curriculum and courses, these four aspects of the senior academic experience let students practice writing, conversing, researching, and presenting at a college level.

Leadership training is also incorporated into the Senior Experience. Seniors are the leaders of the school. We work with them throughout the year to help them make positive changes to their environment, teaching them skills they can carry to college and the world beyond.

The Senior Experience at Sage Ridge School eases the transition from high school to college so that our graduates are ready to succeed in their higher education pursuits.

COLLEGE COUNSELING

While our college counseling program begins in 8th grade, senior year presents the culmination of this major life passage. Our full-time college counselor provides on-site support each step of the way during this crucial time.



Learn more about our College Counseling program at sageridge.org/collegebound



OUR APPLICATION PROCESS

Each year, we look forward to reading the applications of potential new students and helping prospective families learn more about our school. We hope you will consider submitting an application and getting to know our community better.

HOW TO APPLY

- Step 1:** Submit an Online Inquiry – this will enable us to provide you with customized information about our programs and help guide you through the rest of the process.
- Step 2:** Apply – the online application requires information such as academic records, submitting contact information, and three recommendations (at least two former or current teachers).
- Step 3:** Register and sign up for the ISEE Exam or the SSAT entrance exam and Character Snapshot (detailed directions are sent once your application is received).
- Step 4:** Take the ISEE or SSAT and have your scores sent to Sage Ridge School.
- Step 5:** Schedule the interview and campus visit portions of the application process.
- Step 6:** (*Optional*): Complete the Financial Aid Application – most awards are made December-February with additional awards made first come, first served after February.

TUITION AND FINANCIAL AID

At Sage Ridge School, we believe education is the best investment for a child's future. Sage Ridge is committed to being an inclusive community with a student body that reflects a broad economic and social mix with a diversity of interests, talents, backgrounds, and levels of involvement beyond the classroom. No qualified student should be deterred by financial circumstances from applying to Sage Ridge School.

SAGE RIDGE SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Sage Ridge Scholars are high-achieving, mission-appropriate students from socioeconomically diverse backgrounds who apply to the program in grade 8 and are awarded a full scholarship for Grades 9-12.

FINANCIAL AID

The guidelines of Financial Aid for School Tuition (FAST), an organization used by independent schools nationwide, are followed to determine financial need. Admission decisions and financial aid awards are decided separately and all financial aid information is strictly confidential.



Start the process and find an admissions timeline at sageridge.org/inquire



National Association
of Independent Schools

NWAIS
Northwest Association
of Independent Schools

ACCREDITED MEMBER

Sage Ridge School is a member of the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS) and is accredited by the Northwest Association of Independent Schools (NWAIS).



**RENO'S ONLY NON-SECTARIAN, INDEPENDENT DAY SCHOOL SERVING GRADES 3-12.
SAGE RIDGE SCHOOL IS A 501(C)(3) CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION.**

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