

Ridge and Valley Charter School

Educating Children for a Sustainable Future in a Public School of Choice
1234 Route 94, Blairstown, NJ 07825

For more information, call (908)362-1114, email ridgeandvalley@earthlink.net or visit www.ridgeandvalley.org

Enrollment:

Enrollment is open, on a space available basis, to all K-8 students residing in N.J. with priority given to students residing in the districts of Blairstown, Hardwick, Knowlton, Frelinghuysen, and North Warren Regional School.

Ridge and Valley Charter School opened in September 2004, and has approximately 105 learners, grades K-8. The school maintains a 1-15 teacher/student ratio and utilizes flexible multi-age groupings.

We are located on 16 acres with beautiful views of the Delaware Water Gap. In addition to classrooms and offices, we have organic gardens and fields, solar panels, a tipi, a greenhouse, and a yurt on our premises. We are also a short walk to the Paulinskill River Trail, which classes use frequently. Our grounds are enhanced by student-built birdhouses, debris shelters, herb gardens, miniature villages, trails, campfire, compost bins, solar ovens, artwork, picnic tables, and much more.

School Mission:

Children are born with an immense potential. Their innate curiosity and fascination with the world around them is the fundamental basis of their human search for meaning, purpose, love, satisfaction and community.

Ridge and Valley Charter School is committed to developing this immense potential. By encouraging our children's relationships to home, family, school, town, region, nature,

Earth and universe, all life becomes the context for their learning.

Our school encourages children to wonder, to think, to discover and to question. They are cherished and respected and will learn to do the same with the world around them.

Ridge and Valley Charter School believes that it is possible to create a more ecologically sustainable future and that our children have a right to a planet of pure air, clean water, a vibrant natural world and a more just and equitable human community.

This vision is not only a right but a possibility. We believe it is the purpose of a democratic society to lay the foundation of such a future.

The result of a Ridge and Valley Charter School education will be children who grow into adults who love the earth and who are passionate about its ability not only to survive, but to thrive. They will provide leadership that has a clear vision of the world and how to make it better.

What Students Can Expect:

The Ridge and Valley Charter School provides:

- Immersion in the natural world
- Hands-on, project-based learning
- Small instructional groups with individualized attention
- Problem-solving skills through real life experiences
- Healthy food and gardening
- Integrated arts
- Outdoor and adventure education
- Community involvement
- Values for sustainable living

A primary focus of the Ridge and Valley Charter School is the exploration of the effects of human endeavor on our ecosystem. The natural world is the integrating context for our learning. All subject matter, including the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards, is explored through this perspective.

Student Admissions:

Applications for student admissions are available. To be mailed an application, call 908-362-1114, or email ridgeandvalley@earthlink.net. The application may also be downloaded from our website: www.ridgeandvalley.org

Informational Meetings and Tours:

Parents, students, and other community members are welcome to attend scheduled informational meetings or open houses, schedule an on-site tour, or attend our public Board meetings. Please contact us for dates and times.