



Middle & High School

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

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Global Citizens

Our MYHS program prepares students to engage with the world as compassionate and informed global citizens. For example, students participate in interdisciplinary projects exploring global challenges, such as sustainability and social justice, and engage with international communities through service initiatives and travel experiences.

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Oneness

At Desert Garden, we emphasize oneness by fostering a close-knit community where every student is known, valued, and feels a sense of belonging. In our small community, students and staff build meaningful relationships through daily interactions, collaborative projects, and community-wide activities, creating an environment where everyone feels connected and supported.

Growth Mindset

Our MYHS program nurtures a growth mindset by encouraging students to embrace challenges, persevere through setbacks, and view failures as opportunities to learn and grow. This is exemplified through our mastery-based assessment philosophy, where students are evaluated on their understanding and progress over time.

Innovation

Innovation is a cornerstone of our MYHS program, encouraging students to think critically, approach challenges creatively, and explore new ideas across all subjects. Whether developing solutions in science, exploring new perspectives in humanities, or creating entrepreneurial projects in Design, students practice innovative thinking through interdisciplinary learning experiences that prepare them for their futures.

Lifelong Learners

We inspire students to become lifelong learners by fostering curiosity, a love of discovery, and a commitment to continuous personal and academic growth. Through inquiry-driven learning, such as independent research projects and passion-based capstone experiences, students learn how to seek knowledge and develop skills that extend beyond the classroom.

Authenticity

Authenticity is a core value of our program, encouraging students to remain true to themselves while building meaningful relationships with others. By creating an environment that honors individuality, we help students develop confidence, empathy, and a sense of purpose.

Student Agency

At Desert Garden, student agency is central to our educational philosophy, empowering learners to take ownership of their education. Students are actively involved in designing their learning paths, such as selecting electives that align with their interests or proposing their own projects for interdisciplinary studies, fostering independence and accountability.

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