

Adam Reynolds
Principal of West Rocks
Middle School

How do you and your school community promote a sense of belongingness?

At West Rocks, we work to ensure every student feels known, valued, and connected. Through daily Morning Meetings, our RULER approach to social and emotional learning, and student leadership opportunities, we build relationships and give students a voice in their school. We celebrate the languages, cultures, and experiences our families bring to our community, including through our Dual Language program. Belonging grows in everyday interactions, greeting students by name, listening to their ideas, and helping them find opportunities to contribute. We want every student to know they have a place here and adults who believe in them.



What do you value most about your staff?

I value the care our staff brings to their work and their commitment to helping students grow academically, socially, and emotionally. They recognize students as individuals with different strengths, interests, and needs, and they work together to help them succeed. I see that commitment in their collaboration during teacher teams, their willingness to try new approaches, and the time they give to experiences beyond the classroom. Whether they are celebrating a student's breakthrough or helping a child through a difficult day, our staff understands how much those moments matter.

How does your school community help you to be a better principal?

Our students, staff, and families help me see our school from perspectives I might otherwise miss. Students remind me to consider what school feels like from their side of the desk. Staff members bring expertise, creativity, and honest feedback that strengthen our decisions. Families help us understand their children more fully and challenge us to communicate and partner effectively. Their questions and ideas push me to listen, reflect, and make adjustments.

The longer I serve as principal, the more I appreciate how much I have to learn from the people around me.



What are you most proud of and what are you striving to do better?

I am most proud of what our students, staff, and families have accomplished together: the academic growth, the stronger connections, and the opportunities we continue to create for

students. Our recognition as a RULER Spotlight School and our National Junior Honor Society's designation as a National Chapter of Distinction are wonderful examples of that shared effort. I am striving to ensure our strong relationships and support systems lead to consistently challenging learning in every classroom. We are focusing on stronger student writing, critical thinking, and discussion so every learner has opportunities to stretch their thinking and make meaningful progress.