



**CHANGE HIS ENVIRONMENT;  
ACTIVATE HIS POTENTIAL.**



**GRAND RIVER ACADEMY** is a college preparatory boarding and day school that helps young men activate their academic, emotional, and social potential and prepares them for lifelong success.



# ABOUT GRAND RIVER ACADEMY

Since 1831, Grand River Academy has been helping students find success. Founded as a college preparatory school, GRA provides all of our young men with the tools needed to be successful once they graduate. While at GRA, students experience a supportive, welcoming environment where each young man is encouraged to explore his interests.

Grand River Academy's all-boys environment allows our program to be designed specifically for young men to be successful. Our Faculty and staff understand how to connect with boys and provide the necessary support to maximize each students' potential. Our Faculty encourages personal growth and works closely with students to help set realistic and attainable goals throughout the school year.

Grand River Academy is located on more than 200 acres less than an hour east of Cleveland in Austinburg, Ohio. Our Faculty and staff live on campus and provide a close-knit, supportive community to help each student activate his potential.





**STUDENT LIFE** - Our student life program engages students after classes with meaningful real-world discussions, friendly competitions, and purposeful life-skill development.



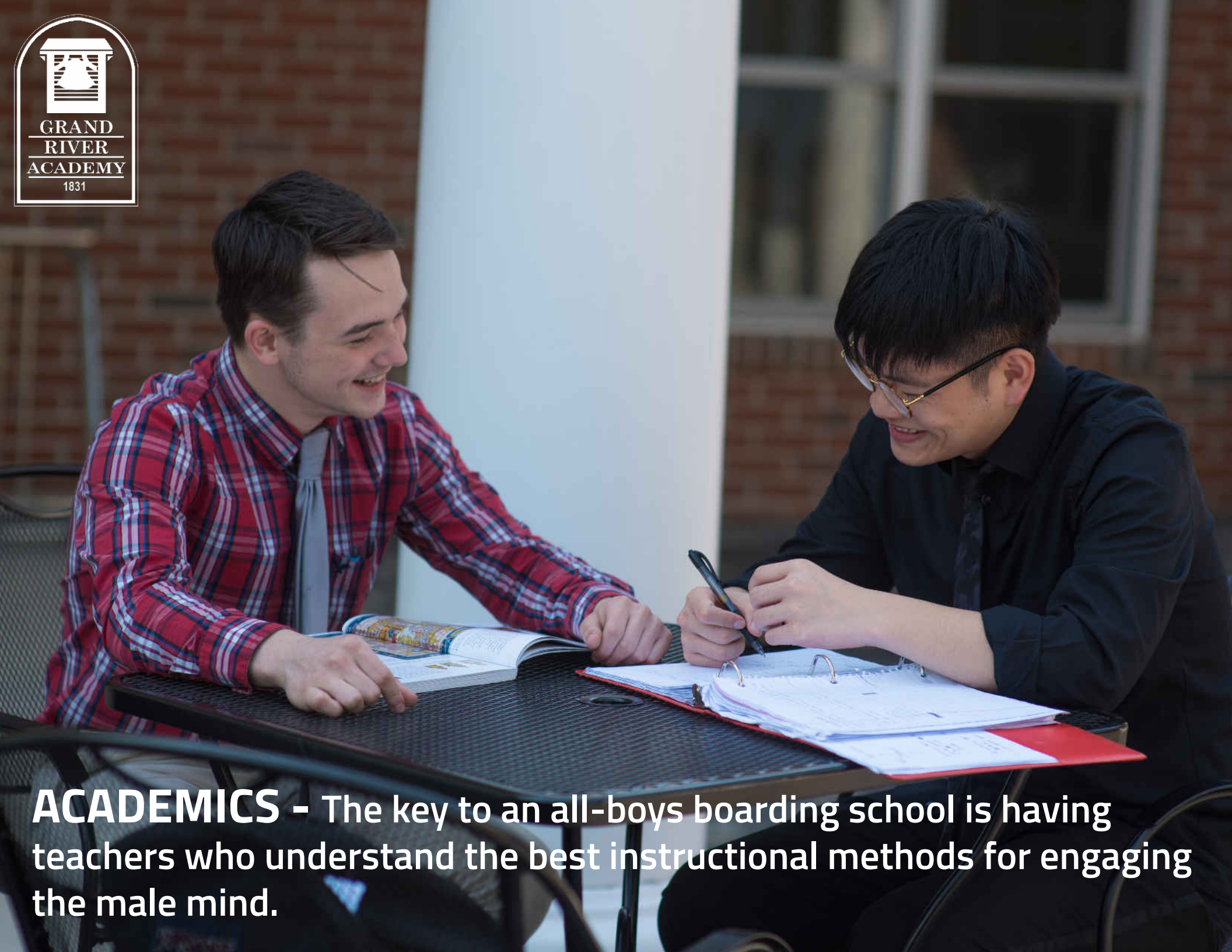
# STUDENT LIFE

Grand River Academy makes social and emotional learning a priority in our students' lives. Our student life program works to educate and grow the young men who come through our doors. We spend time having age-tailored conversations about topics ranging from self-care and drugs to alcohol and peer pressure, healthy relationships, and much more.

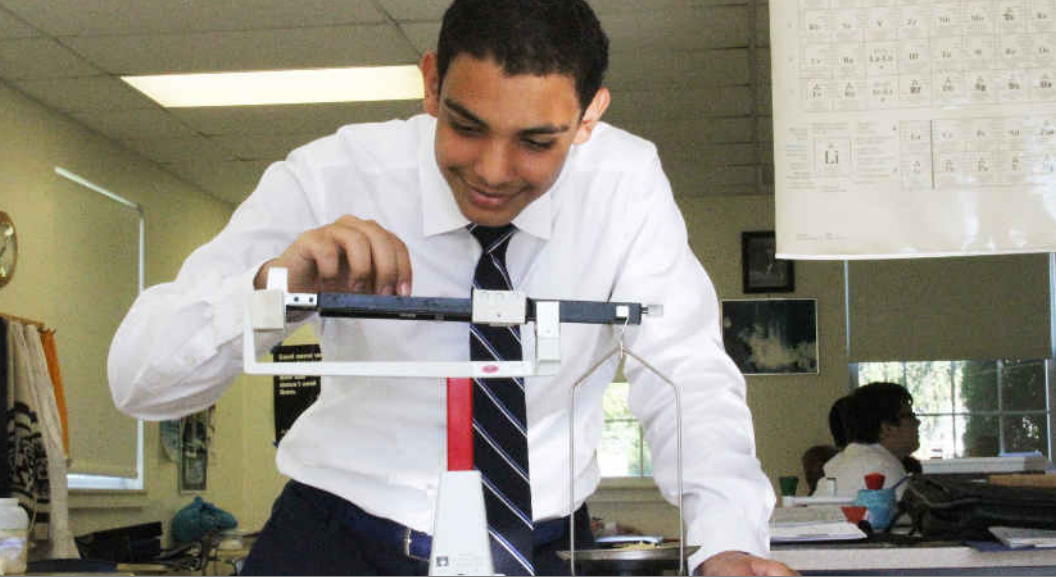
In addition to these life lessons, GRA also encourages students to have fun in our student life program! Our Eagle Cup is a year-long competition between teams comprised of students, Faculty, and staff. Our community competes in events that are athletic, artistic, or STEAM related. Points are accumulated throughout the year with the final winners receiving the Eagle Cup trophy, prizes, and bragging rights through the next year!

During free time, students are often found playing volleyball in the quad, basketball in the gym, or enjoying a spontaneous party in one of the dorms. Our young men also enjoy the Bud Field Student Center: a building on campus with ping-pong and pool tables, media room, arcade games, a music room, and recording studio. Andy's Café is a popular place in the Center that serves snacks and beverages after classes and dinner.

We offer multiple off-campus opportunities to our students every weekend. Trips to movie theaters, malls, restaurants, paintball, ski/snowboard resorts, Cedar Point Amusement Park, and Lake Erie are just a few of the many off-campus adventures taken throughout the school year. Students are also able to stay on campus in the dorms, student center, or gym on the weekends.



**ACADEMICS** - The key to an all-boys boarding school is having teachers who understand the best instructional methods for engaging the male mind.



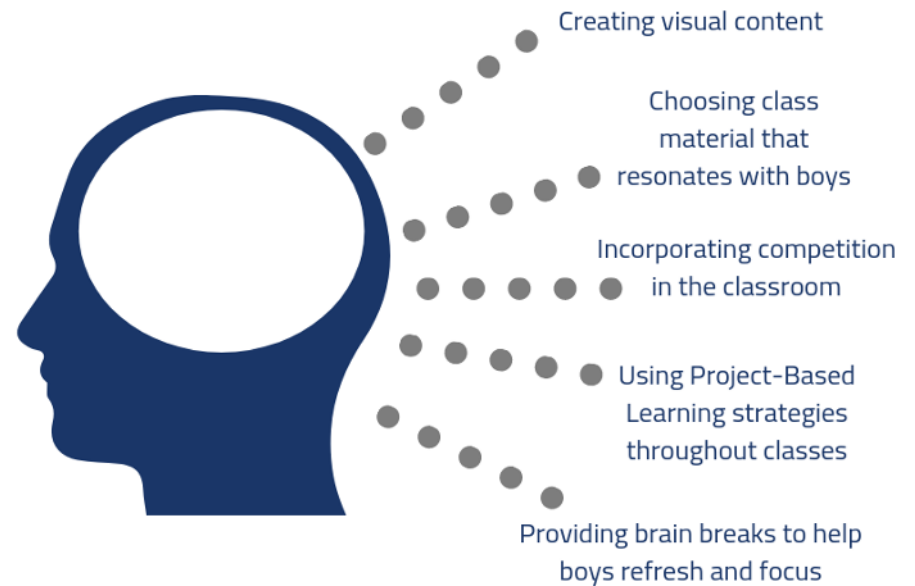
# ACADEMICS

At Grand River Academy, we provide an individualized education plan to meet the needs of each student. With small class sizes and a student centered approach, teachers are able to use different strategies to get the most out of all their students.

While not every young man learns the same way, there is enough research to understand what techniques are most effective in an all-boy classroom. Teachers at Grand River Academy incorporate these strategies every day in the classroom. Our classes utilize project-based learning strategies to help students understand the material while being engaged in the lesson.

Fundamental components of our academic program are mindfulness and active learning. These techniques help boys focus and process information more effectively than a traditional classroom setting.

## Engaging the Male Mind



At Grand River Academy, our Faculty understands these strategies and more for engaging the male mind and have designed their classes to help boys learn more effectively.



**ATHLETICS** - The goal of our athletic teams is to build sportsmanship, teamwork, and character.





# SPORTS AND CLUBS

Teamwork, sportsmanship, camaraderie, player development, and character development are the foundations of the Grand River Academy athletic program. These traits are fostered in games and practices throughout every sports season. Grand River Academy athletic coaches are invested in the well-being of our student athletes and push them to be their best on and off the field. Our coaches understand how to best connect with and motivate young men to get the most out of each player.

We believe that athletics and extra-curriculars can enhance learned in the classroom such as perseverance, resilience, leadership, and collaboration. For that reason, we require all students to be involved in a sport or extra-curricular activity each season throughout the year.

## Sports Offered

### Fall:

Cross-Country  
Golf  
Soccer

### Winter:

Basketball  
Indoor Soccer  
Wrestling

### Spring:

Baseball  
Tennis

## Activities Offered

Academic Challenge Team  
Big Brothers / Big Sisters  
Botany and Tree ID Team  
Community Service Club  
English Speaking Partner Program  
Music Club  
National Honor Society  
Outdoor Adventure Club  
Peer Mentorship Club  
Robotics Team  
Ski/Snowboard Club  
Student Council



**OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH** - We offer opportunities for students to explore areas of interest both in and outside of the classroom.



# OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH

## **Daily Advisor Communication**

We pair every student with two Faculty and staff advisors for the duration of the time they attend GRA. Each advisory group consists of three or four students. Students eat breakfast and lunch every weekday in their advisory groups and meet multiple times a week to review academic performance and set goals. Advisors also provide updates to each student's parent or guardian weekly to build a support system to help each student reach his goals and meet his potential.

## **Summer at GRA**

Grand River Academy offers a four-week STEAM focused summer camp for boys entering 6th-12th grade. Our Summer Academy features a hands-on project that lasts the duration of the camp. Students create, market, and launch their own rockets! This project-based camp allows students to explore all areas of business by creating a product and bringing it to market on their own website. Students learn about coding, design, robotics, and more in their action packed four-weeks at camp!

In addition to their project, students also participate in a variety of activities including sports, art, swimming, and others! We also offer several field trips throughout the summer including, beach trips, Cedar Point Amusement Park, the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, and more!

## **GRA INTENSIVES**

Grand River Academy's INTENSIVES provide students with the opportunity to learn and collectively create experiential courses with GRA Faculty. Students gain credit for these two-week courses specifically designed for immersion into a given educational topic or experience. Course examples include Culture Study and Foreign Travel, Psychology of Sports, Entrepreneurship, and many others!

## **International Student Program**

International students play an important role in the Grand River Academy community. Their experiences from around the world, added to our domestic diversity, make the campus a wonderful place to live and learn. GRA supports international students of varying English proficiencies with three levels of classes in our ELL program. Internationals students also participate in our English Speaking Partner Program where each student is paired up with a domestic peer. Together they participate in activities throughout the year, helping international students transition to life at GRA.



**OUTSTANDING SUPPORT PROGRAMS** - Grand River Academy offers specialized support for each student based on his individual needs.



# OUTSTANDING SUPPORT PROGRAMS

## Foundations of Learning Program

The Foundations of Learning Program helps aspiring learners comprehend and then verbalize their individual learning strengths and preferences. Whether a validation or an inspiration, our goal is to empower students to articulate and apply their learning tools in becoming lifelong learners.

The Foundations of Learning Program is a credited elective course which builds the foundation for academic success through comprehensive educational support. Daily sessions are designed to promote independent learning through individualized instruction that emphasize organizational skills, time management, and self-advocacy.

### The Foundations of Learning Program assists with:

- Reading comprehension
- Study skills
- Executive Functioning Disorder
- Organizational skills
- Note-taking strategies
- Test preparation, test taking strategies, and testing accommodations
- Time management

## Productive Growth Center

The Productive Growth Center features an interactive and recreational wood shop while providing a space for individual and group counseling. Grand River Academy firmly believes in providing programs that support healthy lifestyles and the enrichment of character through emotional awareness to prepare young men for lifelong success.

### The Productive Growth Center:

- Acclimates young men to focus their energy into a productive and positive manner
- Integrates skills learned into recreational and social activities
- Teaches the value of hands-on, project-based activities within counseling sessions
- Empowers students to identify and work with issues to assist their educational and personal growth



**COLLEGE PLACEMENT** - Our goal is to prepare each student for college and the rest of his life.



# COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE LIST

Here are some of the colleges our students have been accepted to in the past five years:

Grand River Academy has a tradition of a 100% college placement rate. To graduate with a Grand River Academy diploma, our young men must have earned a college acceptance. Our goal is to find the right college for each student where his personality, academic abilities, and learning style will be accentuated.

Beginning with the initial college search and application process, GRA College Placement Counselors work with each student to help facilitate this life-changing journey. We want the institution to know the student personally as well as academically.

Arizona State University  
Auburn University  
Baylor University  
Bucknell University  
Case Western Reserve University  
Cleveland State University  
Coastal Carolina University  
Colorado State University  
DePaul University  
George Mason University  
High Point University  
Indiana University  
Iowa State University  
Kent State University  
Marquette University  
Miami University  
Michigan State University  
Oklahoma University  
Ohio State University  
Ohio University  
Penn State University  
Purdue University  
Rochester Institute of Technology  
San Diego State University  
Syracuse University  
Texas Tech University  
The College of Wooster

University of Alabama  
University of Alaska  
University of Arizona  
University of Arkansas  
University of Cincinnati  
University of Colorado  
University of Dayton  
University of Illinois  
University of Massachusetts  
University of Missouri  
University of Mount Union  
University of Nevada  
University of North Carolina  
University of North Dakota  
University of Oregon  
University of Rhode Island  
University of Tennessee  
University of Texas  
University of Toledo  
University of Utah  
University of Vermont  
University of Washington  
University of Wisconsin  
Villanova University  
Washington State University  
West Virginia University  
Xavier University



**CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS** - Grand River Academy sits on more than 200 acres of beautiful countryside in northeast Ohio.





# CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

Situated on 220 acres of land, Grand River Academy's campus provides space for boys to grow, learn, and explore. This historic campus in Austinburg, Ohio, is a rural setting that's close to natural resources (only a few miles from Lake Erie and Grand River), and less than one hour from Cleveland, Ohio, and two hours from Pittsburgh, PA.

## Facility Features:

- 5 Dormitories
- 3 Academic Buildings
- Gym and weight room
- Bud Field Student Center
- Gates Library
- Music Room
- Posner Family Recording Studio
- Robert S. Morrison Lecture Center
- Armington Dining Hall





**"GRA gave me the support I needed to discover that I was not stupid but just needed to learn in a different way than other people. If it wasn't for GRA I could not have made it through college let alone graduate magna cum laude." - GRA Alumni '16**



# GRA TESTIMONIALS

"Grand River Academy is small but mighty. The staff, teachers, and advisors care about the boys and it is clear that they want to help their students be successful. Everyone is fully committed to the mission and values of the school."

- GRA Parent '20

"I am grateful to you and the entire staff of GRA for the work you did with my son these past two years. His transformation from boyhood to manhood has been amazing to behold. This, to me, is the biggest gift of his two years at GRA."

- GRA Parent '16

"The environment of GRA not only allows him to realize his potential as a student, but also as a young man. The teachers and staff make sure that he understands what he is learning. The atmosphere is like a family. His academic advisor keeps us in the loop and is always just a phone call away. GRA has been a positive place for all of us."

- GRA Parent '21

"It's hard to describe just how much Grand River Academy has come to mean to our family. Not only did the staff at GRA see to it that our son improved his academic performance and gain acceptance into his number one college choice, they led him through a personal transformation."

- GRA Parent '19



To learn more or schedule an on-campus visit, contact us today at 440-274-2811 or [admissions@grandriver.org](mailto:admissions@grandriver.org).

# Change His Environment; Activate His Potential.



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