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Rite of Passage programs provide opportunities for students to combine advanced vocational learning with high impact community service while utilizing the principles of Positive Youth Development. Recently, Ridge View Academy construction trades teacher, Mr. Evers, did precisely that when he guided a group of students through a collaborative project with Habitat for Humanity. Construction students framed walls and trusses at Ridge View Youth Services Center for transport by Habitat volunteers to Alamosa, Colorado.

Mr. Evers instructed students how to navigate the early planning stages of construction—a process that includes reading blueprints and building a scale house model. Next, the Ridge View crew drove to Alamosa where they joined Habitat Project Director, Jim Yoder, and a group of volunteers designated to receive the house, and began raising the walls and setting the trusses in place. Through all of their hard work, students and staff gained valuable experience in the field of construction while experiencing firsthand of the value of giving back to the community.

Having completed their second major project, Ridge View staff and students intend to continue to help build brighter futures for families in need through their partnership with Habitat for Humanity.

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