

Ryan Houck



VERMONT COMMONS SCHOOL

SCHOLARSHIP | COMMUNITY | GLOBAL RESPONSIBILITY



Ryan loves reading. He begins and ends each day reading for pleasure. He doesn't leave the house without a book (always hoping for a slice of time to read).

He also loves taking students rock climbing in the woods.

Student photo:



The more books we put in the hands of students, the more chances they have to fall in love with a story and to pass that story on. Thus, he's always trying to build his library. He loves having students speed date books and then talk about which books did and did not grab their attention.

Student-centered lessons demand students share books, have Harkness Discussions about books, and write about books. Ryan believes strongly in the power to write our way to understanding. The more you write, the more you understand what you read.

BRIEF BIOGRAPHY

I moved often growing up. I left a little dust in Oklahoma, California, Texas, and Connecticut. After four years at Cornell University, I went to Colorado to teach English at a boarding school in Steamboat Springs. We took students rock climbing, backpacking, snow skiing, and international traveling. Then I traveled a little farther to teach at the American School of Doha, Qatar. I missed winter, so I returned to Connecticut to teach at King School for five years. Then, as I worked on my MA at Middlebury, I met Colleen. She said, "You haven't lived winter until you've lived in Vermont." So here I am. Happy at VCS. Setting down roots. We just had a daughter during the pandemic—Hooray for good news! Colleen and I both teach English and both read until our eyelids drop each night.