Guiding Principles articulate a school’s vision, values, hopes and ideals to the design team. Guiding Principles will be used to “test” the decisions that are made throughout the design process, since every element of the building must be created to support the school’s vision and values.

Furr High School’s Guiding Principles:

- Our school must be a safe, clean and secure second home for students and their families that is open to the community with after-school programs, services and activities not limited to, but including:
  - A community center/community meeting place
  - Evening and weekend adult education
  - Shelter in storms
  - School day child care for student caretakers and student parents
  - HEPA filtered air and noise-reducing construction

- Our school must develop and care for the whole child with an on-site health clinic to include eye and hearing exams and drug and alcohol abuse referrals

- Our school can continue to provide rigor and equity in education by
  - Ensuring students are well prepared for any institution of higher education they wish to attend
  - Engaging and invigorating students in a relevant and progressive 21st century education
  - Providing multi-varied opportunities for students to express themselves in the arts and sciences including but not limited to radio, film and other media editing studios, broadcast journalism capability, high quality science labs, access to wireless and other technology throughout the building, performance areas including stages, band and orchestra halls and a large auditorium

- Our school must partner with community groups, organizations and businesses to share resources and ensure workplace relevance for 21st century creativity and innovation

- Our school will be a green school, in both philosophy and practice, with clean air and water, a greenhouse for student research and as a community garden