

**BELIEVE IN
THE CHILD**

**Volume 2; Issue 1
Sept 2014**

Montessori Academy Newsletter

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NEWS!

Shirley JA Green, Ed.D.
Principal

Karen Sangmeister, Ed.D.
Assistant Principal

Rachel Wizeman,
School Secretary

625 Scio Street
Rochester, NY 14605

(585) 325-0935

www.rcsdk12.org/montessori

Principal's Note:

Parents,

Welcome to our new and returning families! We are so excited about the start of the new school year. We have already begun learning and enjoying the wonders of Montessori.

Our Primary students are engaged in Practical Life skills. They have already adjusted to the morning routine of getting off the bus and walking to class. Many of them have met new friends. Many of our Lower Elementary students who have spent the past few years in Primary are now eager to take on new challenges. They are learning the new routines of being independent in the cafeteria and travelling in the hallways with one adult. At the Middle and Upper Elementary level, classes will be working together on many projects and activities. There is a new process for them as they arrive daily, which will allow them to show more responsibility.

For the first time in many years, all of our classroom teachers have completed the Montessori training or are in the process of completing the training. This is very exciting for our school community. We have a few new staff members who are collaborating and becoming acclimated to the world of Montessori.

This newsletter includes many important items. Please take time to read through it carefully. Feel free to contact me at the school 325-0935 or via email Shirley.green@rcsdk12.org.

Sincerely,
Shirley, JA Green, Ed.D
Principal

Important Information

Start Time 7:50AM

Dismissal 2:10PM

Breakfast 7:35-8:00AM

Students should not be dropped off before 7:30AM. If you have special circumstances, please see the school Principal.

DISMISSAL CHANGES: If you need to change your child's dismissal, please be sure to call the main office before 1:30PM daily, otherwise the students will be put on the bus.

PICK UP: Students who are picked up must be signed out at dismissal from the cafeteria. Please wait until the class is brought down before you sign out your child.

Office Hours: 7:15AM—3:15PM

(585) 325-0935



FORMS:

There were several forms in the student Red Folders that we need to have returned. Please be sure to send them back ASAP:

- ⇒ Student Information Sheet (Emergency Contacts)
- ⇒ School Learning Compact
- ⇒ OPT OUT/Photo Release (located in the back of the Parent Handbook)
- ⇒ Field Trip Medical Consent (located in the back of the Parent Handbook)
- ⇒ School Based Health Forms (new students only)



OTHER INFORMATION:

We need to have updated phone numbers in case of an emergency. If you have changed your phone number, please call the school with the correct number. It is very helpful to have more than one contact person listed.

If you move, please notify the school immediately. Proof of address must be provided. Transportation takes 3-5 days for changes.

Montessori News!!!!



Meet our New Staff!

Dr. Karen Sangmeister has joined Montessori Academy as our new Assistant Principal. She brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise with over 20 years in the RCSD.

Ms. Dale Boris-Kane joins us as the Art teacher. This is her second year in the RCSD. Ms. Boris-Kane will provide a creative and rich art experience for all of our students over the course of the year. The students will have ART during two quarters of the year. Opposite of Art, children will have formal library instruction from Ms. Bub, our Librarian. The students will be able to do book exchange during open library times each week. Art is located in Room 104.

Ms. Holly Schimpf has joined our staff to provide Speech/Language services to students. This is her second year in the RCSD. Ms. Schimpf is located in Room 223.

Ms. Diane Smith provides services to our students where English is a second language. She has been with the RCSD for several years. ESOL is located in Room 205.

Ms. Vernetta Brown is our full time School Social Worker. She has worked in many schools across the district. Ms. Brown will see students for counselling services as well as work with students in our PEACE circles.

We have two new Paraprofessionals joining our Primary classes. Ms. Rachel Bigby in Room 234 with Ms. Frear; and Ms. Chenesta Hopkins in Room 225 with Ms. Smith. They both come to us with many years of experience in working with children.

Parent Teacher Conference Tips:



Parents often wonder what questions to ask a teacher during the first parent/teacher conference. Teachers should provide parents with the outcomes of the early assessments with written reports or during conferences. These help guide the discussion, but parents may want to know

more.

Here are some questions to get you started:

- 1. What are the strengths you have noticed when working with my child? Here are some of the strengths I have noticed at home.*
- 2. What assessments are you using to determine my child's academic levels? Please share / explain these results to me.*
- 3. What are the goals my child is working on in Reading and Math?*
- 4. What are some of the areas that I can help my child with outside of school?*
- 5. How much time should my child spend on homework?*

Save the Date!

September 18	Open House	6:00PM
September 22	SBPT	6:00PM
September 25	PTA Meeting	6:00PM
October 10	Picture Day	During School Hours
October 13	No School	Columbus Day
October 14	Parent Institute	6:00PM
October 17	Walk-a-thon	12::00PM (Primary Classes) 1:00 PM (Lower, Middle, Upper Elementary)

PTA Officers

**Tanya Wetherwax,
President**

Portia Jones, Secretary

**Andrea Gregorie,
Treasurer**

Join the PTA and show support to our school. There are many events sponsored by our PTA. We need volunteers to help plan and execute events. We ask that you commit to volunteer for at least one event. All events and activities were listed in the previous Newsletter (which can be found on our website).

<http://www.rcsdk12.org/Domain/3225>

NEW School Shirts:

PTA is selling new School T-shirts (shown below). Shirts are available for children and adults. The cost is \$10. Order forms will be sent home with your child or you can purchase T-shirts at Open House!

