

MONTESSORI ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
NOVEMBER 5, 2009  
MINUTES

The meeting began at 3:15 pm.

In attendance: Cheryl Dix, Kristin Husty, Tina Siegfried, Karis Selser, Jim Smith and Traci Wolfe.

**Old Business**

The Fall Field trip to Raemelton was reviewed. Everyone felt the trip went well and the children had a lot of fun. The horses were a big hit and the teachers will decide whether to do this again next year. Tina will talk to the Raemelton staff.

New Parent Orientation was reviewed. There was little attendance the second night of orientation. Ideas will be generated to increase attendance next year.

The Halloween party was reviewed. The kids had fun as always. Thank you to the volunteers who worked hard to make the party a success.

“Dinosaur Digging” was reviewed. Everyone was able to dig twice except one group in the afternoon class because of poor weather conditions. Digging will resume in the spring, weather permitting.

**New Business**

Thanksgiving Feast is coming up on Tuesday, November 24. All children will attend regardless of usual school schedule. The event will take place in the church basement. Letters will go out soon. Volunteers will also be contacted. No food needs to be brought to the feast. The teachers will take care of everything.

Christmas Decorating will take place on Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup> at the Montessori House at 6:30 pm. Pizza and soda will be provided for the adult volunteers who signed up to help. Notices will be sent out. Please contact Tina if you cannot make it.

Parent/Teacher Conferences are scheduled for December 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. Kristin and Traci will coordinate volunteers to provide meals for the teachers on conference nights. Parents will receive a letter with information on signing up for conferences. Please be aware that conferences are 15 minutes long. Remember to be on time or it will hold up the following person and throw off the schedule. If you feel you will require extra time, please contact Tina and make alternate arrangements. You must call the elementary school to schedule a conference with your assigned teacher. Information will be forthcoming.

There will not be a Holiday Mixer this year. Tina felt in light of the economic times, we should also cut back on frivolous expenses. Montessori will again “adopt” needy families provided by Children Services. This year there are two very needed families, one for the AM class and one for the PM class. As in past years, parents will be asked to sign up for gift items and our students will wrap the gifts during the Montessori Christmas party. This has been a wonderful Montessori tradition that dates back years. The teachers will send out information soon.

There will be a “Kids Work Night” at Montessori on Thursday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 pm at the Montessori House. Any prospective students/families are encouraged to attend and observe current students doing “works”. It is also a good opportunity to ask the teachers questions about the program. Please let anyone interested in the program for next year know about this event.

Enrollment at Montessori should be at 92 as of January. We are expecting new students after the Christmas break.

The campus wide Open House will take place in February, not March as in past years. Please refer to the Principal’s letter in the coming weeks for more information.

Mr. Smith reported that a cleaning person for Montessori has been hired. Sister Paula will be turning 84 years old this month and the Elementary School Library will be dedicated in her honor. He also mentioned that the calendars between Montessori/traditional Kindergarten and the Elementary school need to be better coordinated so events are not overlapping in the future. Tina and Mr. Smith are also deciding on a Montessori Rep to serve on Education Commission since Rebeca Weilbacker’s resignation from the Board early this year.

The Montessori Christmas party for the children will take place on December 16.

The Kindergarteners will be participating in “Native American Day” this month.

New works out: measuring, graphing, ordinals, nutrition, animals of the Plains, Native American works.

The dates for the MAC meetings have been decided for the rest of the school year.

February 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm

March 25<sup>th</sup> at 3:15 pm

May 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm

All are invited to attend the meetings.

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 pm.