

The Montessori Advisory Committee last met on Thursday, March 10 at 3:15 p.m.

1. **Review of Holiday Events:** Since the last report, students have enjoyed celebrations for Chinese New Year, Valentine's Day, Mardi Gras and St. Patrick's Day. All celebrations went smoothly with parent volunteers and teachers coordinating the events. Karis Selser organized and conducted the entire Mardi Gras event herself.
2. **Open House / Registration / Buddy Week:** There was a steady flow of people throughout the Open House. Registration for the 2011-2012 year has been good so far, with the morning class full (50) and the afternoon class over 40 students. Several children took part in Buddy Week; all visits went well.
3. **Safety / Cleaning:** The Safety Committee will be sending a reminder to parents noting the "No Left Turn" out of the Montessori/Kindergarten alley. The Montessori is also in need of a cleaning person. Interested individuals will be interviewed and if accepted, hired on a trial basis.
4. **End of the Year Program:** This year's theme is Disney. Children are working on the "Mickey Mouse March," "Zip-a-dee-doo-dah" and "When You Wish Upon A Star." Decorations and props are in the works.
5. **New Works:** Recently introduced works include flags, more than/less than, artists, art forms, presidents, fractions, place value and transportation.
6. **Parent Concerns:** Parents inquired about accommodating the morning students on days when there is a two-hour delay, proposing a two-hour session from 10:00 to noon, with the afternoon classes starting at 12:45. Although it would be nice to identify a solution for these students, the number of logistical challenges poses a significant problem (e.g., morning kindergarten students leave Montessori at 11:00, shifting the music, gym and computer classes, transportation considerations). It was noted that parents, when enrolling their children in the morning session, need to be aware that there is no class on days when the school is delayed and there is no refund for those missed days. Any formal proposals of alternative solutions will be considered.
7. **Teacher Concerns:** Parents were encouraged to continue working with their children at home on reading and numbers, and to consider the snack volunteer list (there are generally many days without a volunteer).

8. **Spring Field Trip:** No spring trip is planned for this year in light of the number of days missed.
9. **Next Meeting:** April 7, 2011 at 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Daniels
Montessori Representative