

## **MONTESSORI PERSPECTIVE:**

### **The child is the father of the man**

- **The first 6 years of a human beings life are critical in the formation of the member of society they will become.**
- **There are periods of sensitivity each child passes through during these first six years of life.**
- **Periods of sensitivity are optimal times for absorbing from the sensory input a child is exposed to the stuff they will create themselves from.**
- **Environment is stronger than will.**
- **The child is shaped through the beauty, order, and content of the environment**
- **The environment must be safe, warm, attractive, & orderly.**
- **The environment must be peaceful and child centered**
- **The furnishings must be light enough for the child to move comfortably yet durable.**
- **The environment outside, as well as inside is critical to the development of the child. Places to run, things to climb on, places to dig and watching things grow.**

**Class rules must be simple, clear and followed by everyone.**

- 1. You may take work out after you have had a demonstration**
- 2. You must clean up after yourself**
- 3. You must respect another child's work and not interfere with or disrupt someone's work**
- 4. You must use the materials with care and purpose.**

### **The Directress or Director (Teacher) is**

- **The facilitator between the environment and the child.**
- **Sets the tone for the classroom**
- **A person who loves and nurtures the spirit of the child.**
- **The implementer of the class rules, and the protector of all the children.**
- **A guide, friend, and partner in discovery, observer, and maintainer of the environment.**

**Children are born with a unique "bent". It is not our job to recreate the child but to assist them in the process of learning who they are and what they were created to become.**

- **Each child has a particular learning style. It is our work to observe carefully to determine what that learning style is and make instruction compatible with that style.**
- **Children have a need for order.**
- **Each human being on the face of the earth is worthy of respect.**
- **The 'normalized' child has a love of learning.**
- **Exposing young children to music, art, design, literature and poetry,**

**geography and diverse cultures can make an understanding and desire for these aspects of human culture as natural as breathing in and out.**

- **Cooperation and collaboration is fostered rather than competition.**
- **Work has its own reward for the young child.**
- **Freedom is possible when we learn to take responsibility for our actions.**
- **Repetition is a good thing.**
- **Humor is necessary.**
- **Children are process oriented not product driven**
- **Children want to be able to do 'things' themselves**
- **Doing meaningful work is important to the young child**
- **Their play is their work**

### **Our commitment to our School community**

**To be an extension of the family, a relational not an institutional culture by:**

- **Fostering parent education/understanding of the process their children are going through.**
- **Fostering respect for our planet: the water, the air, the plants, the birds, and all living creature, especially for mankind**
- **Fostering & modeling problem solving skills in our students by giving them opportunities to resolve conflicts peacefully.**
- **By partnering with parents in aiding their children to be independent, to do it themselves, so they may master inter-dependence later.**
- **By partnering with parents in exercises of courtesy and graciousness, character qualities that foster peaceful relationships in all areas of our life. Montessori is not just material presented by a teacher in a unique environment. Montessori is an attitude in the heart of adults toward the process of childhood, which assists children in becoming themselves.**