



CARSON MONTESSORI CHARTER SCHOOL

Carson City School District's Annual Evaluation
NRS 388A.351

CMCS Fall Status Report
NRS 386.600(1); NRS388A.345

Per NRS 386.600(1) Report due November 1, 2024

Capitulation of School Enhancement Plan
Annual Charter School Sponsor Report per NRS 388A.351

Prepared by:

Jessica Barlow Daniels, Ed.S., NBCT
Executive Director/Principal

On behalf of AJ Feuling, Superintendent Carson City School District

The Carson Montessori School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: Executive Director/Principal, 775-887-9500

FOR CARSON MONTESSORI CHARTER SCHOOL
Covering NRS 386.600, NRS 388A.345 and NRS 388A.351

EXPLANATION/CLARIFICATION

Carson Montessori Charter School and the Carson City School District have a very fluid, amicable, and productive relationship. There is constant contact and the Montessori Executive Director/Principal attends monthly District Principal's Meetings, virtual sessions of the CCSD School Board Meetings, and she is a member of the Community PLC/District Strategic Plan Committee. Carson Montessori Charter School has access to the District's Professional Development Trainings. Under a service Contract and for a fee, CMCS has access to the CCSD Health Insurance Benefits and shares the Infinite Campus Network, so that the CMCS students have a student ID number, with the District, making transitions to District Schools easy. Also with the Service Agreement, Carson Montessori has access to the District's accounting system and CCSD serves as the transfer agent for all SPED funding.



Superintendent AJ Feuling conducts Annual Site Visits, to verify that CMCS meets all of the goals as stated in our Charter and to check that CMCS is compliant in all areas of Charter School requirements. Carson Montessori and the Carson City School District continue to have regular meetings and to receive updates from members of the Carson City School Board. State Superintendent Jhone Ebert stated that, in an effort to minimize the burden on the NRS 388A.351 Report and given the challenging circumstances education has faced the last few years, Charter School Sponsors may submit the report in a format of their choice. We have chosen to submit the two Reports, the Annual Evaluation and CMCS' Fall Status Report as a complete and thorough compilation of both Carson Montessori's Fall Status Report, NRS 386.600 and our Sponsor's NRS 388A.351 report. This 2023-2024 Fall Status Report covers the 5th year of Carson Montessori's cycle for Charter Renewal. As of the date of the filing of these reports, Carson Montessori is entering the 6th year of CMCS' 6-year renewal cycle. CMCS missed the newly implemented 10-year Charter Renewal Cycle by one minute, on June 30, 2019. Carson Montessori's Student Legislative Team worked diligently to get Charter Renewals moved from 6 years to 10 years. The CMCS Charter will be renewed in the Spring of 2025 before it expires on June 30, 2025. A Letter of Intent to renew our sponsorship with the Carson City School District has been sent to the Carson City School District and they have agreed to be our sponsor.

NARRATIVE



*"Let us remember: one book, one pen, one child, one teacher can change the world."
Malala Yousafzai*

In the 2023-2024 school year, we were in an educational world where many educators are burning out and students are losing their spark for learning, as well as the wonder. The magic of learning has become mired in mandates, top down leadership, and numbers-driven, data collecting canned curriculums, but **Carson Montessori Charter School** remains dedicated to focusing on the individual Student and embraces the fact that it is extremely important that the entire staff works to know each Student inside and out by using such tools as *WOW Sheets*, *The Triangle of Accountability*, *Annotated Observations*, *Heritage Projects*, and *Home Connections and Visits*. The mantra that it is important to be "The Least Restrictive, Best Environment for Each Individual Child" is always at the forefront for each Student who enrolls. CMCS has continued to keep LEARNING fun, magical, and jam-packed with wondrous discoveries, *HANDS-ON Learning Adventures*, *STEM Opportunities*, and *GREEN Sustainable Projects*. The Educational Philosophy at Carson Montessori continues to stand firm, that the school and staff will not become mired by mandates and will not use a numbers-driven canned curriculum, but instead we will work creatively to find the positive in mandated educational directives and apply them in a meaningful, purposeful way, with everyone, including students, staff, and families, having a voice.

Carson Montessori remains committed to always putting the student first and has pledged to keep remarkable learning memories thriving. CMCS will continue to nurture that "wondrous, ah-ha amazement factor." Simple "play" and hands on, real-world learning embracing the outdoor environment and building wholesome, well-adjusted, caring, empathetic adults, have remained major components of the day-to-day instruction at CMCS.

Thank you for Travel Packets, which encourage Families to travel and experience the real world.



THE CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT/CURRICULUM

At Carson Montessori, learning is hands-on and real-world. A typical Montessori lesson has students collaborating to solve and resolve issues, thinking outside the box, even writing Proposals to submit to the Principal, as well as writing Bills and testifying before the Nevada State Legislature. Montessori Students have practical life lessons and also are charged with working in and caring for their educational environment. There are lessons where the students build cabinets, install, using power tools, rain gutter bookshelves for a schoolwide Multicultural Library and assemble new outdoor tables. When a Student Proposal asked for a Buddy Bench, the Student ordered it and the Students assembled it. Many hands-on lessons include using sensory techniques, where Students “taste it, touch it, feel it, see it, shout about it, and even sing and dance about it.”



CMCS has the following schoolwide programs: English Language Arts, Math and History, Nevada History, Current Events, Ag in the Classroom, River Wranglers Environmental Preservation, Hydroponic Gardens, Student maintenance of our physical site, Green Sustainability, Community Involvement, Philanthropies, Multicultural Heritage, Financial Literacy, Civics, Social Justice, Courtesy and Grace, Practical Life, GATE, Fitness, Career Technical Strands, using Montessori Methods in the treatment of Alzheimer’s at the Lodge Memory Care, IMC Montessori’s International Projects (esp. Alzheimer’s and Racial Justice), the PAWS Companion Dog Program, a Code Red First Responder Paramedic Program K-6, and all of the elements of a full STEAM Program just to name a few.

As part of the SEL Learning Component, Carson Montessori always enhances the five formative principles of Empathy, Self-Control, Integrity, Diversity and Grit. CMCS is working on the overuse and misuse of electronic devices including the rewiring of the brain, cell phone addiction and the loss of peripheral vision. CMCS now has an Educational Classroom Guide, who is a certified Counselor. She has established a variety of Student Groups, which are designed for Students to become resilient, learn self-management strategies, improve relationships, have empathy, think critically, learn the importance of the outside and the environment, and be able to Choose Wisely.

Carson Montessori also continues to emphasize its *Signature Programs* including Individualized Programs, Home Connections, STEAM, Legislative Teams, Civics-in-Action, Career-Centered Student Internships, Philanthropies, Travel Packets and Off-Site Adventures, which many times facilitate keeping a Family Unit intact especially during Deployment, or ties lessons to Family Trips, and especially allowing Families to leave quickly for emergencies. Carson Montessori has also worked to adapt these real-world, hands-on lessons for Students who have serious medical conditions and who often must learn off-site.



Carson Montessori's Student Legislative Team continues to work every session of the Nevada State Legislature, including this past year during the Interim Sessions, especially that of the Finance Committee that was very active over the 2024 summer, in planning for the upcoming 2025 Session. At this point, there are already three Bills dealing with Autism, which both ADHD and Autism numbers are increasing dramatically at Carson Montessori. During the 2023-2024 school year, the TEAM also became aware of the use of crumb rubber appearing once again in artificial turf. The TEAM reactivated their role in a National Study on the dangers of crumb rubber, as they investigated the installation of artificial turf in several locations in Northern Nevada. They will continue their work during the 2024-2025 School year, in light of the fact that Carson City is installing it at a local park. To this point, City Officials have stated that they are being very careful to make sure that what they approve does not contain toxic crumb rubber. Also, the students are monitoring the implementation of Financial Literacy Statewide. This was a Bill CMCS lobbied through the 2023 Session and it was pointed out by CMCS' Chief Student Legislator that this was the fifth time that the CMCS Team had worked on Financial Literacy. At the signing with the Governor, that CMCS Team Member clearly stated to the Governor that Financial Literacy must be implemented this time.

- ◆ The Montessori curriculum creatively aligns with the Common Core Standards by using the technique of Curriculum Wrapping, with nothing taught in isolation.
- ◆ Students use their portfolios as fluid documents that can assess their growth for grades K-6.
- ◆ With a visit from OSIT, CMCS learned that we need to upgrade our STEM program, which now is a goal for the 2024-2025 School Year.
- ◆ CMCS is part of the Green Schools National Network & Green our planet.
- ◆ CMCS has a Service-Learning Program, a Green Team, a Student Safety Team, a Leadership Team, Reading Buddies, a Makers Club, Teacher's Training Internship Partnership, and a student exchange CTE program with Carson High School.
- ◆ CMCS collaborates and shares the Carson Montessori Best Practices, not only locally, but with the International Montessori Cohort, where Principal Jessica Barlow Daniels is an active member.
- ◆ The CMCS Curriculum is designed to follow the lead of the Students and it is the Students who do the presenting. It will be the Students who will be presenting the Charter Renewal in the Spring of 2025.



FINANCES AND OPERATIONS

"The Carson Montessori administration is committed to maintaining the highest of standards in elementary education and will do so through unyielding vigilance and fiscal responsibility. Carson Montessori's enrollment growth and prudent fiscal management has enabled them to consider expansion opportunities in furtherance of the School's mission of quality education."

- ◆ **FINANCE:** We are very proud to announce that our financial audits continue to be flawless. Carson Montessori's Student Population remains consistent.
- ◆ When Carson Montessori had to adopt the GASB 68 ruling, which makes us liable for the 27% short fall for PERS, it is now listed on our financial statement as a deficit and represents the worst possible scenario situation should PERS go bankrupt. Even though we do not owe that money, it makes it look as though we have a deficit should we need to borrow money to build a new site.
- ◆ All regulations remain aligned and CMCS is 100% compliant.
- ◆ All audit materials were submitted as required and there were no findings.
- ◆ CMCS continues to have a balanced budget and always build from -0- balance even though there is always a reserve contingency.
- ◆ A color-coded comprehensive filing system is in place to document all CMCS transactions.
- ◆ A system to monitor receipts and expenditures is in place. Receipts, purchase approvals, and order-of-action protocols are all in place.
- ◆ All paperwork is color coded by year.
- ◆ Carson Montessori uses a 48 hr. launch, so that students and staff do not miss out on great learning opportunities that are "doable, workable and feasible."
- ◆ It was Carson Montessori's 48 hr. Launch, that allowed Carson Montessori, in March, 2020, to go from a hands-on, in person Montessori School to a fully remote platform in 48 hours with 100% of the students accounted for and receiving services.



S.T.E.A.M.



- ◆ CMCS' 48 Hour Launch, where if it is doable, workable and feasible, your request, wish, or proposal is fulfilled within 48 hours was taken by Green Schools National Network as a very viable idea to be shared with the network.
- ◆ CMCS uses quadruple copies to insure multiple sources for record retrieval.
- ◆ CMCS continues to receive E-Rate funding, \$1,529.76, in FY 2023-2024.
- ◆ Charter School Sponsorship Fee at 1% has been approximately= \$27,000
- ◆ Rental Expenses: \$194,668.78.
- ◆ **OPERATIONS:** The open relationship between the Carson City School District, CMCS's sponsor, and Carson Montessori continues to expand.
- ◆ As part of a Service Agreement, the Carson City School District provides access to their group Prominence Insurance, payroll assistance and serves as a SPED resource. The CCSD is paid \$74,926.33 a year by CMCS for payroll services.
- ◆ SPED and IDEA funds are passed through to CMCS from the District.
- ◆ All the funds from CMCS' Medicaid eligible IEPs, goes to the Carson City School District, CMCS receives none.
- ◆ The Carson Montessori web site is continually updated and remains the #1 source for information and advertising. CMCS uses Facebook to highlight current school successes and as one form of communication with our families and the Public.
- ◆ Carson Montessori has a Student/Family Messenger system and routinely gives Informational Messages, Emergency Updates and News Items.

Verified by: The preliminary worksheets for the June 2024 Audit which is currently being completed. The 2023-2024 Actuarial Report, Salary Activation Letters, Budget Balance Sheet, Bank Statements, Financial Quarterly Reports to the Governing Board are all reviewed and filed with our Sponsor, the Carson City School District. The Service Agreement is being redone.

FUTURE SITE

For years, Carson Montessori has been working to secure a new site and Carson Montessori students are directly involved in the process. Carson Montessori is grateful for the support of the Mayor, the Board of Supervisors, the Planning Commission, our Mouton Drive neighbors, and our Sponsor, the Carson City School District, for their support over the years.



CMCS has looked at over 55 sites, some as many as four times. While a Future Site Committee was established at the request of a Governing Board Member, they soon learned the difficulties that CMCS has experienced for the last 18 years. From zoning to land availability, to cost, to adequate building size, to traffic and parking restrictions, along with many other prohibiting factors, all have impacted our search. Currently, our representative realtor is the head of Carson City's Master Plan Committee and she sees how difficult it is. With GasB68, we currently will not longer to able to build and are forced to rent.

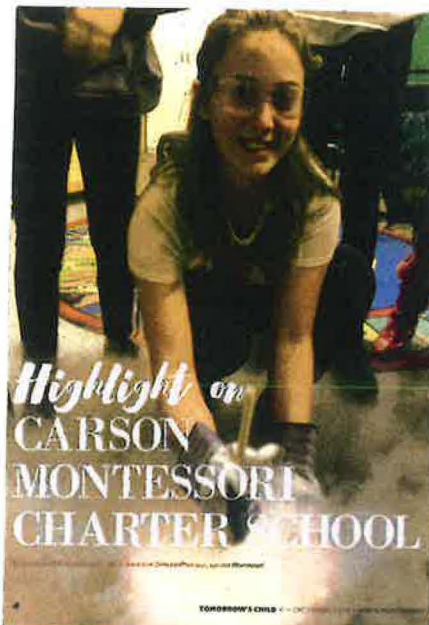
CMCS' STAFF QUALIFICATIONS

CMCS' teaching-staff members are Nevada certificated teachers and in addition are either Montessori trained or working on Montessori Methods, which includes working with one of Carson Montessori's on-site trained Montessori teachers. Most have multiple certifications and Masters Degrees. At Carson Montessori, while everyone, including the Support Staff are considered "Teacher-Guides," all classroom Lead Teachers are fully certified and Highly Qualified. Carson Montessori's Educational Guides, aka Para-Professional Guides and CMCS' support staff, as soon as they have enough credits, are encouraged to get a substitute teaching license and several are currently working on full licensure through State Certified Alternative Programs. CMCS has 2 GATE trained teachers, 4 TESOL endorsed teachers, a fully licensed counselor, who has a Masters Degree in ELL and is TESOL endorsed, a Literacy Specialist, & both the Vice Principal & the Principal are fully licensed, experienced teach trainers. The Principal is a National Board Certified Teacher in ELA and has a Montessori Leadership endorsement. But the true teacher wears many hats and can do just about any task they are asked to do.



Verified by: Teacher Licensed Personnel Report, Staff Report Qualifications NAC 386.350 (3)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, MONTESSORI TRAINING AND ADMINISTRATIVE LEADERSHIP



CMCS has an active membership in the *International Montessori Council*, which offers both Montessori and subject specific trainings. IMC also offers webinars, educational support and individualized consultations. CMCS' staff also has an active membership in the Ron Clark Academy, which continually offers on-going Professional Development. CMCS' Principal is an award-winning educator, a certified writing consultant, a Tribes Trainer, NDE ONE Team Trained School Fixer, and a National Board-Certified Teacher. Principal Daniels also is part of Several IMC Cohorts. She is a member of the *IMC Building a World Class Montessori* working cohort and an active member of the *International Montessori's Social Justice Racism Taskforce*, that consists of 35 Montessori experts from around the world. Currently this cohort is designing a Montessori curriculum to

be used Internationally. As hands-on Instructional Leaders they spend many hours each week being in the classrooms. Morning Assembly also is teaching opportunity, where the Principal enhances individual classroom lessons. The Principal and her husband's construction company

have personally built and stocked an up-to-date Teacher Resource Library, a Multicultural Diversity Library, and a School Food Pantry. As a Partners in Education, Principal Daniels and John Erle Daniels Construction invest thousands of dollars each year to further programs, purchase vital supplies, stock a student food closet, and implement cutting-edge curriculum. The new Vice Principal's husband is with Desert Research Institute and through their education partnership we receive training kits and robots. She is an experienced college level teacher trainer in both Nevada's Teacher Education Program and Oklahoma's Teacher Ed Program.

The Messenger is a publication from the desk of the Principal. The publication includes articles and pictures and goes out to staff with current news and Teaching Tips. Every Staff member keeps these in a Resource Binder. The following is a list of current PD sources and trainings.

- ◆ PROJECT LEAD THE WAY is being implemented school wide.
- ◆ All staff are receiving training in Project Based Learning.
- ◆ DRI's Partnership is bringing robotics to all grade levels.
- ◆ *Tribes* is an integral part of the Carson Montessori Curriculum backbone.
- ◆ Jackie Fung Grundberg's Backpack Science and *Teaching Montessori Science* are all part of the current Professional Development Trainings.
- ◆ All Staff is receiving training on "Hacking Project Based Learning."
- ◆ As Part of the Digital Problem Solvers Campaign from Educational Leadership, trainings include: Good Digital Citizenship; AI; "Uncheatable" Projects; Fact Checking; Media Literacy in an infodemic; Teaching better screen habits; Digital Foundations; How to navigate digital drama; think like a computer; all safety aspects of online useage.
- ◆ All staff meetings have been opportunities for professional growth and team building. Best Practices and Inspirational Motivations containing specific teaching tips have been the signature pieces at each meeting.
- ◆ CMCS is part of an active on-line International Montessori collaboration, which includes sites from around the world, such as India, Germany, Australia, Ireland and South Africa.
- ◆ CMCS is using a Glows and Grows Gauge to enhance evaluations. It includes Montessori Methods and teaching elements.
- ◆ All staff members have received some form of Professional Development training including Montessori Curriculum and technique strands.
- ◆ Regularly, staff groups meet for weekly collaborations and planning in their Hands-On, Real-World, Curriculum Wrapping Learning Communities.

Verified by: Teacher Notebooks; PD Certificates; Webinar CEUs; Messengers/Agendas

SAFETY

- ◆ CMCS is currently renewing its 100% trained status for CPR, AED and Epi-Pen training.
- ◆ Carson Montessori was designated, by an Inspector, as the Top School in Nevada for our First Responder Code Red Safety Program.
- ◆ Compassion is taught as a part of the everyday curriculum. All students learn to be Mini-1st Responders through the "Student Medic Program."
- ◆ A member of the Special Forces and members of Carson City's SWAT Team continually do safety security inspections of the CMCS site. All suggestions are immediately

implemented. Even though CMCS is asbestos free, we have an EPA Approved Asbestos Removal Plan.

- ◆ CMCS is 100% compliant on all Safety Inspections including: Fire, Sprinkler, Health and Alarms. Verified: Fire July 2024; Health, September, 2024; Sprinkler and alarm yearly July; Fire Extinguishers
- ◆ CMCS regularly has Fire Drills, Evacuation Drills and Crisis Preparedness Drills. The majority of which are real-world simulations.
- ◆ Students are trained to “See Something, Say Something.” White dining room cabinets make temporary walls and wooden rolling practical life preparation carts are used for virtual projections.
- ◆ CMCS has maximized its use of the School Messenger System as part of the CMCS Safety Plan and day-to-day communication.

Verified by: CMCS Crisis Plan 2024.

Prepared Not Scared



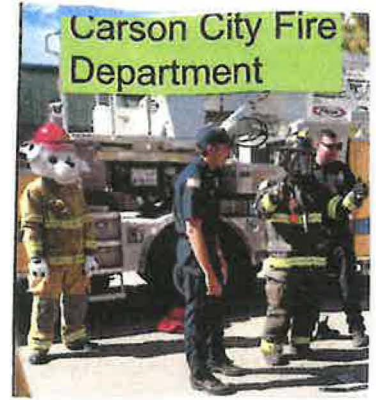
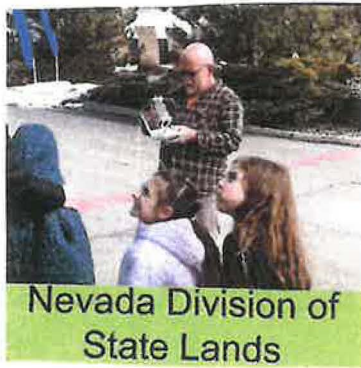
CMCS ENROLLMENT AND STUDENT POPULATION

At the updating of this document, CMCS has a culturally diverse enrollment of 282 students. A quick glance at the Heritage Dolls, displayed in Level Two, shows just how diverse each of our classes is; Clearly we are a blended community with 45 different cultures represented and each doll is in authentic dress and illustrates traditions that are unique to that particular culture. These types of projects are across the grade levels at CMCS and teach tolerance and understanding as we all celebrate that **“WE ALL HAVE GIFTS TO SHARE!”**

- ◆ Carson Montessori and the CCSD continue to work on the CCSD’s Strategic Plan currently focusing on a Framework for achieving Equity in all Carson City Schools.
- ◆ The Equity Framework is designed to ensure that success, engagement and inclusion are not predictable by race, ethnicity, gender, disability, socioeconomic status and culture. It is viewed under three lenses: Personal, Institutional and Professional and addresses the Culture, Practice and Leadership.

Verified by: NRS 387.(223) (1); NAC 386.357 Attendance Reports; CCSD Strategic Plan/Goals





PARENTS AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

A *WOW Sheet* interest inventory interview is conducted each fall for each student. The *WOW* sheet is sent home as a “gift” to families allowing for a time for families to sit down, grab a snack, and enjoy learning about their student. The *WOW* sheets are used to provide the hooks in instruction. CMCS provides an environment where children are encouraged and guided to develop a high degree of independence and autonomy. *WOW* Sheets help staff to understand personalities and see individual Learning Styles. CMCS also has a Parent University called **KNOWLEDGE IS POWER**. CMCS brings in experts on current topics of interest as well as provides training on specially requested subjects. Using the Montessori philosophies as a cornerstone, staff, students, parents and the community are working as a cohesive team to strengthen curricular strands and to advance academic achievement for each individual student. Carson Montessori operates with the support of a PTO Helping Hands Co-Op, a strong core of volunteers from the community, the support of local businesses and industries and the solid financial backing of several substantial Partners in Education.

- ◆ Multiple events are focusing on establishing a strong rapport with parents and community members. All the events have a learning strand attached to them including Montessori home-learning tips or for example Star Gazing in partnership with the WNC Observatory and CMCS Alum BeBe Kiel or the CMCS Salute to Veterans in a very special assembly for family members of CMCS Students who are Patriots, Military or Veterans.
- ◆ Parent University and the **KNOWLEDGE IS POWER SERIES**.
- ◆ Device Policy and a Drug Awareness Program. State experts and medical professionals are continually on site to train and share information and host Parent University. AI and Electronic Devices are a special focus.
- ◆ Student-led conferences continue to be successfully conducted across CMCS. CMCS has a Restorative Justice Plan, a Student Court, tackles Cyber Bullying, and has a Personal Electronic Safety Program across all grade levels (K-6). Goals are collaboratively set by the students, the teachers and the parents.
- ◆ The participation rate in student conferences is 100%. Most were in person or we take conferences to work sites, homes or where ever, if parents can't come to us.
- ◆ Students continue to take-on community causes. Sing for the Retired School Employees and also host Delata Kappa Gamma, do a presentation and cook and serve them dinner.
- ◆ Carson Montessori is partnered with the Lodge Memory Care Unit and CMCS is part of an International Study using the Montessori Methods for the treatment of Alzheimer's.
- ◆ *Give the SUNSHINE*. Each class at Carson Montessori designs a philanthropic project.



Fall Status Report

NRS 386.600(1)

SCHOOL BELIEFS

"The best academic curriculums are of little value if children have no inner discipline, integrity or respect for others and oneself." IMC Montessori Council

If students are happy, they learn. At Carson Montessori, we provide a warm, nurturing, and supportive, academic environment. We respect, we validate, we encourage, and we celebrate. Carson Montessori is a free public school where every staff member works to ensure that CMCS is a school where the curriculum is real-world, hands-on, purposeful and wrapped to produce the perfect blend of Montessori, the Common Core and LIFE. The feeling of peace and calm is alive and well at Carson Montessori. It is a school with thoughtful humanitarianism, nurturing guidance, discipline with dignity, and good old fashion fun. Students learn coping skills through real-world simulations or actual hands-on situations and real-life survival skills are incorporated into the everyday curriculum.

MISSION STATEMENT

AS PER CHARTER

Carson Montessori Charter School provides a Montessori education as a public-school entity so that "every student succeeds and "no child will be left behind," who may need an alternative Montessori school environment. CMCS provides a prepared environment that invites exploration, creativity, and learning of advanced concepts within a warm, nurturing, family-centered, small-school environment. In alignment with Dr. Montessori's own mission, Carson Montessori School promotes peace education through teaching respect for self, others and the community.

With the inception of our Enhancement Plan and the fact that the students' voices are heard through student representatives, who serve on all school committees, including our School Enhancement Team, we have simplified the Carson Montessori Vision and Mission Statements.

UP-DATED MISSION and VISION STATEMENTS

REWRITTEN FOR CHARTER RENEWAL

AS PER CMCS 2009-2010 SCHOOL ENHANCEMENT PLAN and Reaffirmed in 2019

CMCS' SCHOOL VISION STATEMENT:

*For Carson Montessori to flourish academically
to become the educational gem of
Northern Nevada.*

CMCS' SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT:

*To provide, through a Montessori education, an
alternative learning environment that allows
children to reach their fullest potential*

EDUCATIONAL AND OBJECTIVES

5.8(b) Goals as per Carson Montessori's Charter

Carson Montessori focuses on opportunities for pupils to learn, encourages the use of effective real-world, hands-on, purposeful methodology and provides professional opportunities for teachers to learn the Montessori methods.

GOAL 1: AS PER CHARTER

Create Opportunities for Students to Learn

Through the use of Montessori educational materials, and real-world, hands-on instructional methods, pupils have been provided with opportunities to learn at their own self-directed pace. Hands-on Montessori manipulatives, teacher created Montessori centers, the inception of Real-world Math, the use of the Writing Traits, Discovery Learning modules, Project-based strands, School-wide Practical Life, Character Education, a Student Legislative Team, Music,

Manufacturing including Prosthetic Hands and STEM Curriculum and Project Lead the Way Lessons. CMCS has Brain Gyms, Yoga, Fitness, Nutrition, Culinary, Financial Literacy, Consumerism, Civics Education, Law, Design & Décor, STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math), The NASA Space Project, Rocketry, Robotics, Aeronautics/Drones, 3D printing, Filming, Construction, Philanthropies (Bucket Filling) and Student Choice just to name a few of the elements in CMCS' Montessori enhanced learning environment. With Montessori lessons, all individual Learning Styles are taken into account, curriculum is wrapped and nothing is taught in isolation. The environment within the school has been enhanced to reflect CMCS' philosophy. From the teal green walls, live plant accents, lamps and artistic exhibits of student work to the table cloths and learning displays, that have transformed our rugged warehouse appearance, Carson Montessori has become a warm inviting learning environment.

CMCS' Literacy Center, over-seen by a Literacy Specialist, features scientifically, brain-based programs such as Linda Mood-Bell, Seeing Stars Protocol, Raz Kids, See Saw, Café, the Daily 5, Literacy by Design, Reading A-Z, Bedtime Math, Khan Academy, The Science of Reading, Zearn and a complete Multicultural Library. CMCS has a trained Dance instructor, a Fitness Coach, an Artist-in-Residence, an Event Planner, an Engineer, a Manufacturer, a Contractor, a Plumber, an Operations Manager, a Fire Chief, an Insurance Agent, an Attorney, an Investment Broker, a Banker, WNC's Astronomy Department; and several other craftsmen and designers, all of whom share their talents and work with students either on hands-on projects or Career Tech Skills.



Each student is free to bring his or her own Personal Electronic Device under CMCS' State approved Personal Electronic Device policy, but the use of the device DOES NOT control their lives or consume their free time. Instead, CMCS Students run with the wind, play in the mud and yes, dance in rain puddles. Students and staff have access to Chrome Books, Surface Tablets, computers, green screens, 3D printers and Go Pro-Drone operated cameras.

CMCS' library houses thousands of dollars-worth of books that are wrapped around the walls of the school on rain gutters. CMCS is hoping to be able to reactivate the tradition of students in Upper Elementary, who were bridging up, going on a buyers' field trip to purchase high interest books, one for themselves and one to leave as a legacy. The funds are donated by Partner in Education, John Erle Daniels Construction.

Because CMCS is a smaller, hands-on school, students are able to do site work on the topics they are studying. CMCS is now adding back field trips to on-site learning destinations ranging from drone explorations at the Reno Air Races and on-site demolitions to a trout release and river clean-up with the River Wranglers.



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GOAL 2: AS PER CHARTER

Encourage the Use of Effective Methodology

Montessori methods are taught using the multi-sensory, manipulative materials developed initially by Dr. Montessori. The methods are real-world, hands-on and coupled with curriculum wrapping, which was developed on site. This is a complete system of education and covers all of the disciplines found in traditional educational models. We are working on maximizing the use of the manipulatives to enhance CMCS' purposeful, real-world, hands-on learning to meet the National Common Core Standards. In a Montessori setting, the teacher is responsible for preparing the environment, which at Carson Montessori is themed. Then the teacher is to step into the role of being a facilitator or guide. The staff is cohesively collaborating and sharing teaching tips, working on school-wide projects and supporting one another. Work continues through staff collaboration and goal setting to help the teachers prepare the environment and materials to align with the Standards and maximize each learning opportunity. Teachers have been supportive of each other and an open collaboration has been encouraged. Weekly "Professional Learning Community" meetings are held in a small, grade level informal "get-together," during which time, the staff plans theme based, student-led, real-world, hands-on, learning-centered, cross-curricular activities. Even CMCS' events are student-centered and have a learning component. Most of our large events have been done school-wide, with each teacher helping to coordinate his or her station of choice. Each teacher also spirally wraps these themed, cross curriculum events into his or her classroom activities.

The following is a small sampling of events that have been a main stay of Carson Montessori's curriculum. Star Gazing, Chautauquas, the *Talking Wax Museums*, and Classroom Philanthropies, the Chili Cook-off and the Souper Feast.

GOAL 2: AS PER SCHOOL ENHANCEMENT PLAN

CMCS is adamant that the standards are implemented in such a way so as not to implode the hands-on, real world learning fun and so they **WILL NOT** smother a student's joy of learning.

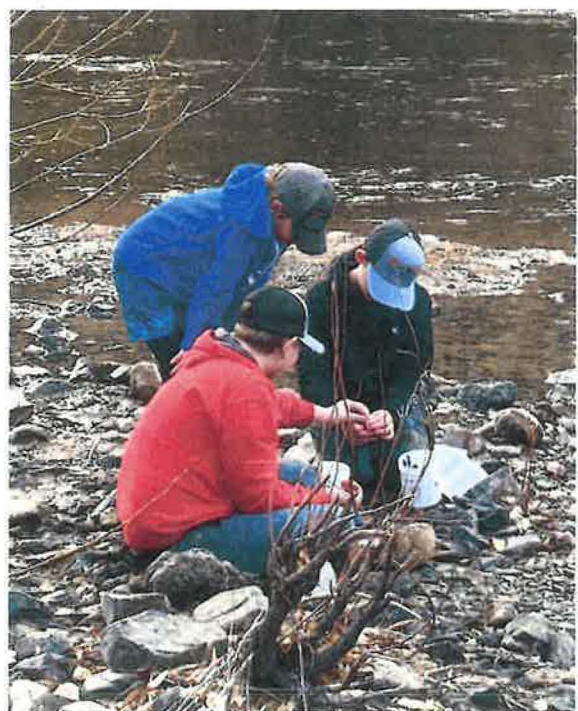
FIRST GRADE PROGRESS REPORT 2011-2012

Student: _____ Teacher: _____

Carson Montessori is using the student's strengths and interests to guide learning and address individual differences. Parents receive feedback on the progress of their child's learning through the study of the curriculum and the progress reports. The progress reports inform parents about their child's social skills and progress, as well as the student's progress in the core subjects of reading, writing, and math. All progress reports will be available to parents on the Carson Montessori website.

At Carson Montessori observations are the #1 form of assessment.

NA - Not applicable	SM - Some of the time	OP - Often	MS - Most of the time	ES - Every time
1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35
36	37	38	39	40
41	42	43	44	45
46	47	48	49	50
51	52	53	54	55
56	57	58	59	60
61	62	63	64	65
66	67	68	69	70
71	72	73	74	75
76	77	78	79	80
81	82	83	84	85
86	87	88	89	90
91	92	93	94	95
96	97	98	99	100



Objectives: CMCS will continue to provide trainings to all of our staff so that staff will not only have a working knowledge of the Montessori curriculum and philosophical essentials, but the latest proven methods. With these skills, the staff, which is already highly qualified under Nevada teacher licensure, will then be able to effectively participate in the drafting of workable, useable “joy of learning” curriculum guides. The final documents will be in a fluid, user-friendly, compiled scope and sequence guide that will serve as a foundation for classroom learning as well as keep parents and students well informed regarding curriculum issues. A core course of study continues to evolve including the Montessori learning planes, which features sensorial, courtesy and grace and practical life. We will also tie into our courses of study and integrate thematic units we have developed to enhance our spirally wrapped Montessori Curriculum. It is CMCS’ objective to continue to lead the state with a Common Core Standards based “Academic Growth Benchmark” (aka report card). It is a thorough inclusion of all of the necessary Common Core Standards for each grade level, with a detailed explanation. We contacted all stake holders for feedback, including the students, and the documents remain in a fluid state to accommodate revisions as needed.

GOAL 3: AS PER CHARTER

Professional Opportunities for Teachers to Learn the Montessori Method.

Carson Montessori is constantly challenged regarding Montessori qualifications. The Montessori Method is unique to each site. It is not a copyright, patented commodity. Each site has the freedom to, as Maria Montessori advocated, “follow the lead of the child.” As a result, no two sites will be exactly the same. Carson Montessori is focused on home growing its staff and although our techniques are cutting edge, we will maintain a grassroots, back-to-nature style of training. Much of the professional development is done in a teacher-of-teachers format, exactly as Maria Montessori believed the students learned. Carson Montessori will continue to keep our training on-going, hands-on, pertinent, and on-site when applicable. The staff uses the five-step process: “I do, as the guide first, we do it together, third, you do it alone, fourth, you teach someone else and finally you partner, collaborate and DISCOVER something new.” The Northern Nevada/Northern California Montessori’s are still forming a collaborative in order to establish a Montessori Teacher Training Site.

Note: For on-site Montessori trainings, Tim Seldin, President of the International Montessori Council has been conducting trainings, via SKYPE and webinars for Carson Montessori School.

GOAL 3: AS PER ENHANCEMENT PLAN

CMCS continues to build a seamless transition from home to school and back home again by creating a positive community atmosphere that enhances the “Normalization” of each Montessori student. Based on the Montessori *Triangle of Accountability*, which is an equal partnership between the school-teacher/guide, the parents and the student, who is at



the top of the triangle, CMCS' targeted focus will be to increase parental and community engagement in the educational process.

Objectives: CMCS will continue to provide an academic element for every event it has. Multiple forms of communication are used to inform and to monitor that all families feel included, questions are answered, and accommodations are made to ensure participation. We are working on growing Parent Seminars, which are motivational, inspirational and informative, to not only familiarize our new families with the Montessori school to home connection, but to provide valuable, educational information. As part of CMCS' Parents University strand, a required Bridge Night, for transition to the next grade, is held in May to acquaint parents with what is expected in the next grade level. These seminars have been highly successful and are enhancing our parents-as-partners initiative. CMCS' real-world **KNOWLEDGE IS POWER SERIES** has grown into one of the most complete drug and cyber safety initiatives in Northern Nevada. Our Parents in-pur in the development of the CMCS Academic Growth Benchmarks (aka: report card) was much appreciated. Our Parents were especially vital in making the document reader friendly.

ACCOUNTABILITY REPORTS AND ASSESSMENTS

Group Summary Report

CRT (Grades 3-8 ELA/Math), Year 2023-2024

	Math - % ED	Math - % AS	Math - % MS	Math - % ES	ELA - % ED	ELA - % AS	ELA - % MS	ELA - % ES
State	42.7	24.7	18	14.6	35.6	23.2	25.4	15.9
Carson City	43.6	28.3	17.3	10.8	35.4	27.9	25.5	11.2
Carson Montessori	34	41.2	17	7.8	24.2	30.7	28.8	16.3



Elementary School
KG-06
Carson City
2263 Mouton Dr.
Carson City, NV 89706

Student Race/Ethnicity

64.6%	White
N/A%	Bj/Afr Am
22.8%	Hisp/Latino
3.7%	Asian
1.0%	Am Ind/AK Nat
N/A%	Pac Isl
7.7%	Two or More

Assessments: Carson Montessori's current STAR RATING as of September 2024 is 3 STARS! CMCS is working on improving math scores by enhancing the CMCS real-world hands-on math strands. Research is showing that math scores are down across the country and that more than anything else, math must be purposeful, and all students must know and understand Number Sense. During the 2023-2024 School Year, CMCS completed Fall, Winter, and Spring MAPS Assessments and the Spring SBAC. CMCS completed the Fall and Winter MAPS Test to help provide data to staff to raise the scores. All Kindergarteners are given the Brigance Test prior to entering. The following methods are still used to assess students: annotated observations, portfolios, student-led conferences, peer-to-peer and student-to-staff interviews. In addition, each student produces an interest inventory and learning styles analysis.

Carson Montessori
Charter School
Celebrating 20 years



*Let your
Dreams
take Flight*



Carson Montessori