

# Montessori School of Lemont

Since 1972

## Save the Date!

- October 1  
Tuition Due
- October 6, 8:45<sup>am</sup>  
Fall Fest Planning Meeting
- October 11  
Indigenous People's Day/  
Columbus Day, No School
- October 15  
Safety Drills
- October 21  
LE/UE Field Trip
- October 22  
Primary Family Field Trip
- October 23, Noon-3:00<sup>pm</sup>  
Fall Fest

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October 2021

## Fall Fest



Fall Fest is right around the corner and all parents are invited to attend the planning meeting on October 6<sup>th</sup> at 8:45<sup>am</sup>. This annual community event is Saturday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> from Noon-3:00<sup>pm</sup> and is funded by the Parents' Association with donations and proceeds from PA fundraisers.

There will be games and activities for all ages! The 6<sup>th</sup> graders will host tours of their haunted trail and the Adolescents are designing an outdoor haunted house

that's sure to thrill. A food truck will be on hand along with a complimentary coffee bar. Everyone is encouraged to wear costumes and decorate their cars for Trunk-or-Treat which will take place in the parking lot at 2:30 pm following a costume parade across campus.



If you're interested in helping out, stop by the meeting or email [dmoreno@supremescrewinc.com](mailto:dmoreno@supremescrewinc.com) to volunteer.

Thank you!  
Debbie Moreno,  
Orange Room Parent & PA Secretary

## Walk, Jog, Run!



Our annual *Walk, Jog, (Color) Run* was a huge success with 129 MSOL students, staff and parents participating. Over \$5,300 was raised for our physical education program and outdoor environment.

WJR was started 13 years ago by Amy Goebbert, a Blue Room parent volunteer who organized WJR as a 5k to help us raise funds for our PE program. Proceeds have been used for PE equipment, the natural playground, our outdoor classrooms and most recently the Gaga Ball Pit!

Thank you to Jeanine Galetti and Jennifer Galka for organizing WJR and to the families and staff who support the ongoing improvement and growth of our programs!

## Board Profile



8<sup>th</sup> graders, Makenzie and Layla in their first ukulele lesson

### Meet Angela Adolf!

The MSOL board is a professional board, comprised of alumni, alumni parents, Montessori certified teachers, public sector educators and financial professionals.

Angela is an alumni parent who has been an education advocate for over 15 years. She has served on numerous parent teacher organizations as a board member and volunteer. Angela's passion for education led her to run for the Homer 33C Board of Ed

where she was president for two years followed by a two year term as vice president. While serving Homer, she earned her Master Board Member certification from the Illinois Association of School Boards and led Homer to receive the School Board Distinction award during her term as president. Angela helped establish an education foundation for Homer 33C and also set up the finance and planning committee for the district. She has led numerous fund-raising efforts for schools in the area raising over

\$250,000 in her volunteer career. She and her husband, Joe, have helped MSOL raise over \$100,000 by hosting our annual auctions for the past several years. Angela is currently also serving as a Trustee to Homer Township as well as on the LTHS Foundation Board as it's vice president. When times are "normal," Angela runs the Lockport Homer Youth Theater, serving as its executive director for the past 9 years. Angela has a true passion for education and is proud to serve the students of MSOL.

**"Can you shred  
on a ukulele?"  
M.F., 6<sup>th</sup> grade**

## Parents' Association Report

### OFFICERS PRESENT:

JENNA TREANOR, PRESIDENT  
JENNIFER GALKA, VICE-PRESIDENT  
KAREN DAMATO, TREASURER  
DEBBIE MORENO, SECRETARY

*The Parent's Association of the Montessori School of Lemont exists to support the school's philosophy, programs and activities for the benefit of all students, staff and families.*

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Therese Colby, Nicole Cirillo, Ashley Warren, Ken Wessel, Elizabeth Waller and Arlene Koza

CALL TO ORDER: 8:45<sup>AM</sup>

MEETING ADJOURNED: 10:00<sup>AM</sup>

EXECUTIVE REPORT: JENNA TREANOR, PRESIDENT

### NEW BUSINESS:

Walk, Jog, (Color) Run!

Jennifer provided an update on WJR, 119 participants are registered, Jenna said we have 5 NHS volunteers from Lemont who will arrive at 7:45 AM

Jeanine will prepare sprayers and set up cones for running path

We need two volunteers for check in, Therese to confirm teacher volunteers.

Jennifer will send out a reminder to the whole school about the event

### Mum Orders

Karen provided an update on mum orders. 485 mums sold so far this year compared to 311 last year. Mum pick up is confirmed for Wednesday September 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Discussed logistics of mum fulfillment: Adolescent class will help unload plants to color locations. Volunteers will inventory number and color of each plant prior to filling orders. Manya making labels for each plant. Jenna will make a sign up for parent volunteers. Primary families with early dismissal will be available at that time. All others will be at afternoon pickup.

### Auction Photos

Manya will take photos of children

Jenna to ask Ashley to help Manya with photos

Fall Fest suggested as backdrop for photos when grounds are decorated

The Glassner Family of Art & Co. will provide professional framing services again.

### Fall Fest

Debbie will be lead for Fall Fest and reviewed prior food and entertainment options.

*(Continued on page 3)*



Juliette in action!  
2021 Auction Photo by volunteer,  
Manya Crippen

(Continued from page 2)

Open discussion regarding suggestions  
Ashley volunteered to coordinate 3 games, Ken volunteered 5 cases of water  
Elizabeth looking into a petting zoo

Next meeting to be announced based on Fall Fest planning needs  
9/15/21

## Fall Conferences & Feedback

**Informal Parent - Teacher Conferences** will be scheduled individually by the teachers this month for parents of new students (new to the school or class).

**Parent-Student Evenings** in early November is a time for parents and their children to explore the Montessori environment together.

**Adolescent Parent-Student Meetings** are scheduled at the beginning of each trimester to collaborate on upcoming events, trips, service projects and classroom activities.

**Formal Parent-Teacher Conferences** for all parents are held in November and May. Primary and Lower El students do not attend conferences. Upper El students participate in the conversation in preparation for their own **Adolescent Student-Run Conferences**

during which they report out directly to their parents. Adolescents review their portfolios and address any weaknesses along with their progress and goals for the next trimester. Teachers join at the end of their presentations for questions.

### Survey Results

Last month all students were surveyed about their school experience and 31% responded. Parents of younger students administered the online survey to their children.

100% of all primary and adolescent students agreed that the teacher wants them to do their best in class, wants everybody to work hard, and is nice when they ask questions. One student each in the elementary rooms felt that

working hard and listening were only expected 'sometimes.' Except for the adolescent class, where 100% agreed that students in their class are respectful, (5) students from other classes reported room for improvement and one felt that kids in their class do not follow directions!

75% of primary students reported learning a lot everyday with similar results in other rooms except for the adolescents who again reported 100%. There was also consensus among the adolescents that they all learn to correct their mistakes, that their teacher asks questions to be sure they're listening, encourages students when the work gets hard and has several good ways to explain each topic covered in class.



Thank you to parent volunteer, Paul Joniekis for installing our sail shades!

**“Mrs. McClenning is an amazing teacher. She should not change anything about her methods. Mrs. Colby and Mr. Janus are also excellent. I love the learning experience at this school.”**  
[survey comment]  
-J.T., 8<sup>th</sup> grade

## Hurricane Relief

As you all know we have been collecting socks to send over to a fellow Montessori school in Houma, Louisiana named Messiah Montessori which has recently been affected by Hurricane Ida. Messiah Montessori and their families still do not have electricity. The hurricane caused substantial

damage to their buildings and plan to complete the repairs to one of the buildings in the next couple of weeks. We are glad to say we gathered 635 pairs of socks and will be shipping these socks along with cards and letters of hope to welcome back the students when they return to

school. The Adolescents will be paying to ship these socks with the money from the MSOL Fresh Market unless any parent volunteers would like to pick up one of the boxes and ship them for us.

-Layla A., 8<sup>th</sup> grade  
Director of Communications



The Fall Curriculum Crawl in our new outdoor learning environment!

*...for all the little reasons*

The Montessori School of Lemont is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that has been educating children ages 3 through 8th grade for almost 50 years based on the methods and philosophy of Dr. Maria Montessori. The school was established in 1972 by teachers dedicated to offering families an individualized educational approach for their children. The school relocated to Lemont in 1990. In 2001, the school moved to its permanent location after the construction of a new campus on 7.5 acres of donated land. In 2010, a third building was completed to accommodate the growing enrollment and in 2011, a “natural” playground and an organic community garden were created. Funds are currently being raised to improve and grow our campus.

*Montessori School of Lemont does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, pregnancy, national origin, age, socio-economic level, physical ability, genetic information, and learning style in the administration of its educational policies, admissions, hiring, scholarships or other school programs.*

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It is the mission of the  
Montessori School  
of Lemont  
to provide for the  
physical,  
intellectual,  
emotional, and  
spiritual  
education of children ages  
3-15 years  
following the methods and  
philosophy of  
Dr. Maria Montessori.



**MONTESSORI**  
School of Lemont

## Coffee, Anyone?

Are you interested in learning more about Montessori? Join us for our next monthly “Coffee” on November 5. Prospective parents will take a virtual tour of the campus, learn about Montessori philosophy and MSOL. Call or email if you would like to attend.  
[info@lemontmontessori.com](mailto:info@lemontmontessori.com)

- \* Philosophy & Curriculum
- \* Virtual Tour
- \* Parent Mentors
- \* Programs
- \* Admissions Process



**Join us for coffee and  
stay for a few years!**

## Safety Plans

October is Fire Safety month so don't be alarmed if you see fire engines on campus!

Primary students will learn about fire safety and take the always popular “Touch a Truck” tour. Lower EI students will skip the simulations in the mobile classroom trailer again this year due to COVID and will meet with firefighters for a Q&A instead. Upper EI and Adolescents will discuss evacuation plans and have a roundtable discussion with firefighters on home alone safety and big brother/sister responsibilities.

The fire and police departments will also be on campus this month to observe and time our state required intruder and fire drills. As a recognized non-public school with the Illinois State Board of Education, MSOL must perform three fire drills and one police lockdown drill each year. We will combine both drills on October 15 and as required, they will be witnessed by an official from each department. School bus safety drills and tornado drills are also mandated and will be held throughout the year.



*Fire Safety Visits*