

North Star Montessori Academy fosters a Montessori environment allowing the whole child the freedom and support to question, think deeply, and make connections. Our Montessori environment yields confident, motivated, and self-directed learners able to think critically, work collaboratively, and become respectful citizens in an ever-changing world.

## What do you want for your child?

- Do you want your child's innate curiosity, imagination, and naturally inventive and exploratory instincts to bloom and flourish at his/her own pace?
- Do you want an environment that acknowledges the differences in your child's personality and rate of learning?
- Do you want your child in a nurturing, child-centered community based on mutual respect, empowerment, and self-reliance?
- Do you want your child to develop a relationship with his/her teacher that is collaborative, strong, and long-term?

If so, then you will want to consider North Star Montessori Academy.

## What is Montessori Education at North Star Montessori Academy?

The Montessori method of education was developed by Dr. Maria Montessori. It is a child-centered educational approach where children are offered opportunities to reach their highest potential. Montessori believed that children's growth, development, and learning happens in waves, or planes of development. Throughout each plane, students have different needs, sensitivities, strengths and needs to be independent learners. Our Montessori teachers prepare each classroom environment to support and appeal to students within each developmental plane.

Primary Classroom	Lower Elementary	Upper Elementary/Adolescent
Capable of absorbing large amounts of information about the environment by using their senses.	Children no longer want to repeat activities. Concepts must be presented using various materials and activities.	Characterized by rapid growth at all levels and many changes.
Sensory and motor experiences that lay the foundation for later academic skills.	Students enjoy working together in small groups and partnerships.	Students enjoy finding connections, exploring fairness and justice within the world.
Pay attention to many things at once. Explore the environment.	Students have a strong sense of imagination that guides interests.	Enjoy working in groups with friends that have similar interests.

Montessori programs have necessary components that allow children to be successful. These include, multiage groupings, uninterrupted blocks of time (work cycle), guided work choices, and organized and inviting work spaces full of Montessori learning materials.

- Each child is valued as a unique individual. Montessori education accommodates different learning styles and allows children to learn at their own pace. Students are able to advance through the curriculum as they are ready.
- Students of all ages develop order, coordination, concentration, and independence. Our classroom design, structure of routines, materials, and individualized work plans allow students to self-regulate and become more responsible and respectful citizens.
- Students are part of a close, caring community. Our multi-age classrooms allow for students to develop relationships with older and younger students. Older students enjoy being mentors and role models, while younger children feel supported. Teachers consistently model respect, kindness, and peace.
- Montessori students enjoy freedom within limits. Working within parameters set by their teachers, students are active participants in deciding what their focus of learning will be. By allowing children more choice, it activates their natural curiosity to learn and grow.
- Students are supported in becoming active seekers of knowledge. Our prepared classroom environments allow students to have the freedom and the proper tools to seek out answers to their own questions.

Given the freedom and support to question, to think deeply, and to make connections, Montessori students become confident and motivated self-directed learners. Our students are able to think critically, work collaboratively, and act as respectful citizens in an ever changing world.

North Star Montessori Academy Offers:

Differentiated learning based on individual needs

A mix of traditional Montessori materials and teacher created materials

- Alignment with the Common Core Standards
  - Lamp Lighting/Home like feeling
  - Peace Education/Restorative Justice

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