Millard Montessori Levels Preprimary or 3-6 year olds Primary or 6-9 year olds Intermediate or 9-12 year olds Middle School classrooms; 6th grade and 7th-8th grade community

### **Other Information**

- & Letter and number grades are not given in Montessori. Assessment information, teacher observations and progress reports are shared with parents on a regular basis.
- The preschool years of the program are parentpaid, whereas kindergarten through 8th grade are offered as part of the regular Millard Public Schools program.
- & Information current as of March 2013.

#### MISSION OF MILLARD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The mission of the Millard Public Schools is to guarantee that each student develops the character traits and masters the knowledge and skills necessary for personal excellence and responsible citizenship by developing a world-class educational system with diverse programs and effective practices designed to engage and challenge all students.





#### Montclair Elementary School

Alicia Kotlarz - Principal 2405 So. 138<sup>th</sup> Street, Omaha, NE 68144 (402) 715-1295 www.mpsomaha.org/montclair/

#### **Norris Elementary School**

Colleen Ballard - Principal 12424 Weir Street, Omaha, NE 68137 (402) 715-8340 www.mpsomaha.org/norris/

#### Russell Middle School

Brent Snow - Assistant Principal 5304 S. 172nd Street, Omaha, NE 68135 (402) 715-8500 www.mpsomaha.org/rms/





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AMERICAN MONTESSORI SOCIETY® education that transforms lives

# Millard Montessori spans from preschool to 8th grade

## The Montessori Approach

The Montessori approach provides a wide vision of education as it supports students as they develop from childhood to maturity. It succeeds because it draws its principles from the natural development of the child. The inherent flexibility allows the method to adapt to the needs of the individual, regardless of the level of ability, learning style, or social maturity.

In the Montessori classroom:

- The environment is prepared so that children are free to explore their natural drive to work and learn.
- Students choose meaningful activities under the guidance of a trained teacher.
- Through their work, students develop concentration, independence, motivation, persistence and discipline.
- Activities and lessons always progress from the concrete to abstract, simple to complex.
- Students become inner-directed or self-directed rather than "other-directed."
- The multi-age setting allows students to become part of a learning community that fosters respect and understanding as all students learn and grow individually.

# anguage

& Spoken language is emphasized as the foundation for linguistic expression.

Montessori Curriculum

- $\bigotimes$  Exact vocabulary is used for all activities.
- & Materials available to help the child connect symbols and sounds, and to compose words and sentences.
- & A wide range of books and literature are available. Literature may be explored individually or in a group.
- & Other materials are used in the development of handwriting, spelling, grammar, vocabulary and composition.



- & Hands-on materials that build in complexity and from the concrete to the abstract.
- & Open-ended materials allow students to work at their level of understanding through 8th grade.
- Students develop skills in number sense, operations, geometry, measurement, algebraic concepts and problem solving.
- & Middle school students utilize district textbooks to facilitate learning district standards.



- & Sensorial materials in the preprimary class prepare the student for accurate perception of details and attributes.
- & Materials used in the preprimary classrooms for sorting and classification are revisited in the elementary and middle school classrooms as students find volume and areas and discover relationships and geometric formulas.



- Biology, physical science, history, geography, space studies and fine arts are included.
- & Students are naturally attracted to learn with attractive equipment and real images presented through stories.
- & Integrated into literature studies, mathematics and writing.
- & Middle school curriculum incorporates cultural studies into thematic units spanning all curricular areas.

## Practical Life

- K Five areas of exercises: care of the person, care of the environment, food preparation, social courtesies and movement.
- & Aids in the development of coordination, cooperation, independence and organization.
- & At the elementary level, activities include care of plants and animals, test taking skills and how to interview or plan a field trip.
- Middle school students apply their skills during immersion experiences where classroom learning is moved out into the community.