

# The Montessorigram

California Montessori Project - Elk Grove Campus

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## The Normalization Period

Thank you to everyone who attended our Back to School Night evenings. We have had great participation and teachers were excited to share their classroom expectations and norms with families; I hope that many of your questions were answered. It was thrilling to see how many families took advantage of the Mobile Live Scan and the 7 Habits Training in anticipation of being able to volunteer in the classroom and/or participate on fieldtrips once the Normalization Period has ended.

Maria Montessori used the terms "normal" and "normalization" to

describe a unique process she observed in child development. When children are allowed freedom and an environment suited to their needs, they blossom.

At the beginning of each school year, you will hear teachers and staff refer to the Normalization Period. This is a time when students are acclimating to their new environment, their new teachers, and their new classmates. The goal is that each class develops its natural rhythm and sets the tone for the social climate of the group. The children and teachers create a

trusting relationship that is carried throughout the year. Once students have had a chance to "normalize", parents will be invited to participate in the classroom environment. This period may last 6 to 8 weeks, and the time passes quickly, so please be sure to complete/update all volunteer requirements early so you can sign up to participate in the classroom. Thank you, as always, for your support of our students, teachers, and staff.

~ Ms. Kathleen

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## Have You Signed Up?

This is our second year holding Initial Parent Meetings to allow teachers an opportunity to touch bases with parents and students early in the school year. **August 29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, and 31<sup>st</sup> are Minimum Days**, and sign-ups are available in the classroom and online. These meetings are especially important for those students in a transition grade or starting out with a new teacher, but it is also beneficial for returning families to reconnect with their child's teacher and learn about

Expectations will be for the upcoming year.

Please note that assessment data will not be shared at this time, as teachers are allowing time for students to acclimate (Normalize) into the classroom routine before completing all the academic assessments. At the November parent/teacher conferences, the report card template and grading rubrics will be shared with parents, although the primary purpose of

of these meetings is to discuss your child's progress up to that point. The first report card will then be sent home on November 9<sup>th</sup>.

Please access the CMP Network Calendar on the website for all reporting and conference dates, please contact us if you have additional questions. Thanks!

## Participation Opportunities

We have several great parent participation opportunities coming up!

The first is the Elk Grove Multicultural Festival on Saturday, August 25<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 to 6:00 (includes set-up and take-down). This is our third year participating in this fun event and we are looking for parent volunteers (and even students) to help work our information booth. Each "shift" is 2 hours long. This is an opportunity to share information about our school and Montessori education. Please go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080b49a5ad2eaaf85-multicultural> to sign-up for one of our 2-hour shifts.

Another opportunity is to join the Campus Advisory Council (CAC). The CAC is made up of five members (the school principal as Chair, two teacher representatives and two parent representatives), who meet once per month in an open forum for observation and participation by the school community. CAC members serve a two-year term.

We are currently seeking one new parent rep for the 2018-2019 school year.

If you are interested in serving on CAC or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Kathleen at [kmmerz@cacmp.org](mailto:kmmerz@cacmp.org) or 916-714-9699. Members of CAC provide support to Ms. Kathleen by serving as a positive communication channel between the campus, parents, teacher and the community; allocating donated resources in support of the campus' educational program. Parents will be asked to vote in the fall for their choice of CAC Representative from identified candidates.

Lastly, though certainly not least, please keep your eye out for information from our Parent Teacher Fundraising Committee (PTFC). PTFC is in search of parent volunteers to help in the planning, organizing, and running our campus fundraisers and events. PTFC's next general meeting is scheduled for August 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at the BR site.

## What's Needed to Volunteer?

- Have a cleared live scan on file in the office. This only needs to be done once. Because the Department of Justice has not yet developed a process for cross reporting, all parents must obtain a live scan clearance specifically for CMP regardless of whether the parent has previously received clearance through an employer or another organization.
- Have current negative TB test on file in the office. This needs to be done every 4 years.
- You will need to have a confirmed attendance at a "7 Habits of Highly Effective Volunteer" presentation. This is required only once.
- In order to drive on a field trip, you must submit your driving record each year. If it is your first time submitting your driving record, please provide a DMV 10 year driver's history print out to the office. THIS CANNOT PRINTED AT HOME. You may go to DMV to fill out form INF1125 or print it from the DMV website and take it to DMV filled out. After your first submission, you may bring in a 3-year history.
- Provide a current copy of the Declaration page showing proof of vehicle insurance for \$100,000/\$300,000 liability coverage to the office, a copy of your driver's license and your DMV car registration. All due annually.

**CMP – Elk Grove Campus**

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[www.eg.cacmp.org](http://www.eg.cacmp.org)

**Every Day Counts!**

Attendance Rate for 8/15/18 to 8/23/18

**97.68%**

**Keep up the great attendance!!**

**EVERY DAY COUNTS!**

**Upcoming Important Dates:**

- 8/25** – Parent Participation Opportunity: Multicultural Festival
- 8/29** – **Minimum Day – Initial Parent Meetings**
- 8/29** – PTFC Meeting @BR at 6:30
- 8/30** – **Minimum Day – Initial Parent Meetings**
- 8/30** – CAC Meeting @BR at 6:00
- 8/31** – Assembly: Maria Montessori's Birthday at 11:00
- 8/31** – **Minimum Day – Initial Parent Meetings**
- 9/3** – **School, Club M, and Office Closed – Labor Day Holiday**
- 9/5** – Trait Assembly: Be Safe, Respectful, Responsible @both sites at 11:00
- 9/6** – Fall Pictures (FREE DRESS)

**Minimum Day and Early Release Day Dismissal Schedule**

**K-3<sup>rd</sup> Graders out at 11:45**

**4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Graders out at 12:00**