



# Eagle Peak Montessori News

*"The child becomes a person through work." Maria Montessori*

## Principal's News

In just a few weeks we will see most of you for the beginning of the school year activities. Our new students will be coming for Welcome Week starting August 17th and then Thursday August 27th we will have our back to school orientation (Please see Registration/Orientation Night Schedule for further details)

This summer has been a very busy time around the school, even without summer camp. The Upper Elementary teachers and I have met several times to finalize the changes that will occur for next year (See Upper Elementary Changes section). Several of the Lower Elementary teachers have been here working in their rooms and of course Mrs. Mahraj and I have been working on all of the paperwork and systems to prepare for the new school year.

For those of you who have been following the news, you are aware that there are additional plans to cut public K-12 education in the state. At the time I am writing this they are talking about an additional \$6 billion in cuts just for education. We of course have no idea how that will affect Eagle Peak directly, but there is no doubt we will be affected. During registration night, we hope to have more information on this situation and present it to you during the welcome back session with the Board of Directors.

## **REGISTRATION/ORIENTATION NIGHT AUGUST 27TH**

This year, due to the changes in Upper Elementary, we will hold the orientation meetings slightly different. Upper Elementary parents will receive their classroom information in the Multi Purpose room. Lower Elementary parents will still go to their child's classroom, but their information time with the Board and Administration will be in room 201 rather than the multi-purpose room. When you drop off your registration packet you will be informed as to whether you are group A or B. Therefore, please plan to be present for the entire evening. Child care will be provided at no charge for children at the school and toilet trained siblings. Remember to **pick up** your registration packet in the office during the **week of August 17th**. Please notify us if you are not able to come in that week.

## ORIENTATION SCHEDULE

5:30 - 6:00	DROP OFF PACKETS AND VISIT INFORMATION TABLES
6:00 - 7:00	GROUP A MEET WITH CLASSROOM TEACHER GROUP B MEET IN ROOM 201
7:00 - 8:00	GROUP A MEET IN ROOM 201 GROUP B MEET WITH CLASSROOM TEACHER

## Issue 2

August 2009

## Upcoming Events

Bridge Program  
August 17-21

New Parent Information  
Meeting w/PTLG  
August 17th  
8 am or 12 pm

Registration Packet Pickup  
August 17-21  
8:00 am -5:00 pm

Upper Elementary  
Information Meeting  
August 18 & 20 @  
6:30pm

Orientation Night  
August 27<sup>th</sup>  
5:30 - 8:00pm

Campus Clean Up Day  
August 22<sup>nd</sup>

First Day of School  
August 31st  
Early Dismiss - 1 pm



## **UPPER ELEMENTARY CHANGES-Summary**

Throughout the course of the summer the teachers have been working on a program that we feel will enhance our ability to continue to provide our students with an exceptional Montessori education. Beginning this school year, each of our four Upper Elementary teachers will have a core subject area in which they will work with the students. The teachers each were able to choose their subject area of concentration. Whereas each teacher previously taught several areas of the curriculum to the students, they will now be able to concentrate their energies on simply one area. This single point of focus will allow them to truly specialize. This in turn will bring the students a deeper understanding and experience as well.

- Wendy will teach Language (writing, poetry, grammar, conventions of spelling)
- Denise will teach History and incorporate reading
- Zhanna will be our Science teacher
- Emily (new to our staff this year) will teach Math

We will be holding two meetings for the Upper Elementary parents to go over the changes and to answer any questions they may have. These meetings will be held on August 18th and 20th at 6:30 pm. All Upper Elementary families have received a letter with more details.

## **News from the EPMS Board of Directors-President Simon Makdessi**

Tuesday July 21, the EPMS board welcomed two new members to our group. Kristen Revell and Adrinna Fonseca-Marin join the board as community members. Jennifer Lee took over one of the teacher positions on the board as a first time board member as well. We also voted in our executive board with Simon Makdessi - President, Tina Segrove - Vice President, Jennifer Williams - Secretary, and Pete Villa - Treasurer.

The board recognized Krista Ericson, the founder of Eagle Peak for her service to the school and the board, by presenting her with a commemorative bench which will be in the courtyard with a name plaque dedicated to her. Sean McCaan was also recognized for his years of service to the board.

As you know the state budget will be cutting education. We are following this closely and will present our information to you during the back to school orientation evening.

During the weekend of July 12th -13th EPMS Board co-partnered with the Charter School Development Center to provide governance training for over 25 charter schools. This weekend was a wonderful sharing experience but also provided us with so much additional information which will enable us to serve the school even better.

## **News from the CFEP-President Gundi Younger**

Dear Parents,

The beginning of school is fast approaching and I would like to invite you to meet the new Board of Directors of the Community Foundation for Eagle Peak (CFEP) during Orientation Night, August 27<sup>th</sup> and at the Back-to-School Breakfast, hosted by PTLG and CFEP, on the first day of school, Monday, August 31<sup>st</sup>.

Drop off your Annual Giving Pledge Form and find out how you can be involved in the future success of our school.

I'm looking forward to seeing you all again.  
Enjoy the summer,

Gundi Younger



## Enrollment Process 2010-2011

*We recognize that many of our families have acquaintances who would like to learn more about Eagle Peak. Please share the following information with them.*

### ***Registration Process***

Our registration process begins each Fall with a series of Prospective Parent Meetings. These meetings are the first **mandatory** step in the application process for enrollment at EPMS.

Meetings are held throughout the year approximately once a month. Please bring any questions regarding this process or any other questions regarding EPMS to the meeting with you.

After you have attended one of these meetings, you must observe in a classroom for at least 20 minutes. Observations in the classroom take place during the morning work period.

Once you have completed these two steps, you must bring your completed application, a copy of your child's birth certificate, and proof of current residence to the office **no later than 5:00 pm on the Friday prior to the lottery** (March 19).

The Prospective Parent Meetings will provide you with information regarding the enrollment process for the **2010-2011** school year and the program at Eagle Peak. At these meetings, we will define charter schools and Montessori schools and explain how they differ from traditional school programs. All meetings will begin promptly at 7:00 pm, except for those marked with asterisks, which will begin at 9:30 am.

**Lottery will be held Monday March 22, 2010 @ 6:00 pm**

Only applications completed by the March 19 deadline will be included in the March 22 drawing.

### **Prospective Parent Meeting Schedule**

DATES		TIME	LOCATION
Thurs. Oct. 8, 2009	*Sat. Jan. 23, 2010	7 - 8 pm  *Saturday meetings are held at 9:30 am	Eagle Peak Montessori 800 Hutchinson Road Walnut Creek, CA 94598
Thurs. Oct. 22, 2009	Thurs. Jan. 28, 2010		
Thurs. Nov. 12, 2009	Thurs. Feb. 11, 2010		
Wed. Dec. 2, 2009	*Sat. Feb. 20, 2010		
*Sat. Dec. 12, 2009	Thurs. Feb. 25, 2010		
Thurs. Jan. 7, 2010	Thurs. Mar. 4, 2010		

Eagle Peak Montessori School  
800 Hutchinson RD  
Walnut Creek, CA 94598



Phone: 925-946-0994  
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Web: [www.eaglepeakmontessori.org](http://www.eaglepeakmontessori.org)

*Every child is honored at  
Eagle Peak.*



**\*TO BE REMOVED FROM THIS MAILING LIST PLEASE**  
**EMAIL: [mhammonseaglepeak@yahoo.com](mailto:mhammonseaglepeak@yahoo.com)**



*Eagle Peak is a charter public Montessori elementary school*

**No tuition is charged**

Parents reported a high level of satisfaction

Currently serving Grades 1-5

Located on our new campus at 800 Hutchinson Road in Walnut Creek

*EPMS is nonsectarian in its programs, admission policies, employment practices, and all other operations. The school will not discriminate against any pupil on the basis of ethnicity, national origin, gender, or disability.*

THE EAGLE PEAK BOARD OF DIRECTORS meets regularly on the third Tuesday of the month at 7pm.





