



Guadalupe Montessori School



Helping Your Child Reach for the Stars



August 9, 2021

Dear GMS Families,

As the beginning of the school year draws near, I am excited to welcome you back to the Guadalupe Montessori School for the Fall Semester. After all the disruptions due to COVID over the past year and a half, I am happy to announce that a full school schedule will be provided for all students, Monday through Friday. We are also able to bring back the After School Care Program. On Fridays there will be a focus on experiential education in the mornings, with the Pilot Enrichment Program in the afternoon. I would also like to share that our Toddler program will continue as a Spanish Immersion Class. All Primary and Elementary students will also be receiving Spanish lessons this year.

FREEPORT-McMoRAN

I would like to give a big thank you to Freeport - McMoRan for awarding us a generous grant of \$7000.00, making the Pilot Enrichment Fridays Program possible.

Important Information for this school year

The first day of school is **Monday, August 23, 2021**. All families are invited to attend a parent orientation, via zoom on **Saturday, August 21 at 10.00am-11.00am** (zoom link to follow). It is strongly encouraged that new families attend.

Morning drop off - 8.00am-8.40am

Classes start promptly at 8.45am.

You have the option to drive through or park your vehicle and walk your child/children to the front archway.

Afternoon pick up - 3.30pm

Children that are not picked up by 3.45pm will automatically go into After School Care.

After School Care - 3.45pm-5.30pm

Please pick up your child/children promptly at 5.30pm.

An email will be sent out from Transparent Classroom with the After School Care Program registration form. If you would like to sign up for this program, please submit this form by the end of the day on **August 13, 2021** so that GMS can staff accordingly.

Covid-19 Gating Criteria and Protocols:

Students will still be screened when they are dropped off at school each morning. There will be some screening questions and a temperature taken of each child.

Masks are still required for all students and staff, vaccinated and unvaccinated, while they are inside the building. This is a mandate from NM ECECD and PED.

Masks are no longer required for students and staff, vaccinated and unvaccinated, for activities that take place outside. Students and staff that choose to wear a mask outside are welcome to!

Covid-19 Response:

Normal school: Indoor program and mask wearing indoors, no masks outside - no other restrictions.

Hybrid School: Splitting the classes in half, with a rotation of indoor and outdoor - in person classroom learning, to prevent learning loss and retain full access to all the materials.

Full Restrictions: All outdoor learning.

Please note that the Toddlers' schedule will be unchanged throughout.

I would like to express that our goal is to retain as much normalcy as possible to the school schedule this year, to avoid social and emotional challenges and learning loss. Changes regarding school programming will only take place based upon state mandates, board approval and with prior notice to families.

Over the next few weeks your child's guide will be contacting you before school begins to answer any questions you may have. If your child is new to the school, and entering the primary or toddler classrooms for the first time, his/her guide will also set up an orientation and start date for your child. Staggering the start dates for younger students ensures that guides can give your child more individualized attention to aid with a smooth transition into their new learning environment.

We are so grateful to be able to serve your child this coming school year and very much look forward to seeing you all soon. If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me at heidi@guadalupemontessori.org. Attached for your reference is an updated GMS School Calendar.

Sincerely,

Heidi Pendleton
Head of School