



# MONTESSORI CENTER SCHOOL



2021 - 2022  
ANNUAL REPORT





## FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL



Another great year is in the books and it is thanks to all members of our MCS community! While COVID-19 still posed its challenges, it was a year full of many teachable moments of inspiration and joy! Our strategic plan continues to guide us in our efforts to improve MCS and we made some important strides this year.

The MCS faculty and staff provided our students with beautiful, well-organized indoor and outdoor Montessori environments. They utilized the outdoor spaces often, taking advantage of our beautiful weather and lush gardens. The faculty and staff were flexible, supportive and understanding of the importance of following the COVID-19 protocols. What an inspiring staff we have here at MCS! We were all very excited to welcome parents back onto campus in February! Getting back to some in-person interactions lifted all of our spirits and provided us with the connections we were all craving.

MCS welcomed several new members to the Board of Trustees this year. Reviewing and updating our investment policy and choosing an investment firm was an area of special focus. M-J Hey was the chair of our Finance Committee and he oversaw the formation and work of the Investment Committee. The Board continued to support MCS during the second year of the COVID-19 pandemic, providing us with excellent leadership. Board president, Tom Burk, finished the second year of his term, leading with kindness, respect and a deep love for MCS. We are grateful for his service these past two years!

One of the highlights of our year was the opening of our STEAM Lab in February, made possible through generous donations to a science-themed Auction cash call in 2020. Our elementary teachers use this well-equipped STEAM Lab to conduct science lessons and demonstrations. Students have enjoyed using this new space that is dedicated to their scientific explorations!

Our wonderful MPO, led by Morgan McDonald and Nikki Murray, provided us with tremendous support this year. The virtual science nights were fun and interactive. We were able to have an in-person Auction this year, held at the Carriage Museum with a western theme! It was a memorable evening complete with roping, line dancing, whiskey tasting and lots of socializing after almost 2 years of virtual events, all thanks to our incredible MPO! Our gratitude goes out to all who attended and helped to support MCS!

The Staff Appreciation Committee, which is part of the MPO, treated the staff to many goodies throughout the year including farm boxes, coffee and pastries, Chaucer's gift certificates, pizza lunches and more! Their kindness helped to sustain us all year long! We are grateful for such generous families who make us feel so appreciated.

The Development Committee, chaired by Vanessa Jackson, worked diligently to raise funds for our Fund for MCS campaign and assisted with the Auction. These funds help us bridge the gap between the cost of tuition and the true cost of educating a child at MCS. Our Marketing Committee, chaired by Leo Welder, worked hard on developing our website, broadening our reach in social media and working with admissions to plan events that spread the word about our remarkable school. Thank you Vanessa and Leo for leading the charge!

We would like to extend our gratitude to the entire MCS community for another wonderful year! We are looking forward another great year with enthusiasm and anticipation!

Warmly,  
Melanie Jacobs  
*Head of School*



# FROM THE PRESIDENT

## The Board of Trustees

To our MCS Family:

As I reflect over the past two years, I know certain things without question. It has been both an honor and a labor of love serving as your Board President. It is an experience my family and I will always remember with both humility and pride. The humility comes from gratitude at being given the opportunity to serve. The pride comes from both internal and external. Internally, I can look in the mirror and be comfortable that I did my best. Not every decision was a success, but every decision we made as a team was made with our community’s long-term best interests at heart and was aligned with our goals, culture, and ethos as best we knew how. Much more importantly, externally I am so proud of our community of students, educators, families, and volunteers. These past two years have not been easy by any means. Through tireless work, resilience, dedication, and good humor I believe we have succeeded tremendously and emerged stronger and finer for all of our experiences. I cannot express strongly enough how impressed and grateful I am for all of your efforts and contributions.



It is with great pride and optimism for the future that I hand off the role of Board President to Michael-James Hey. “M-J,” as we know him, is incredibly smart, grounded, caring, patient and possesses the sense of humor necessary to lead on a day-to-day basis. I know without a doubt that M-J will help lead MCS to an even brighter future.

Again, it has been an incredible honor to serve as your Board President for the past two years. Thank you again, everyone, for your dedication and support.

In service,  
Tom Burk  
*President, Board of Trustees*

# THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

## 2021- 2022



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*Marketing Committee Chair*



# MCS FAMILY INTERVIEW

## *The Adler Family*

### **Tell us about your family?**

After two decades living in the hustle and bustle of Los Angeles, in August of 2020, we moved our family of five to Santa Barbara. (While Josh is originally from the east coast, Conor was born and raised here in Santa Barbara). We spent countless weekends driving up to escape LA, got married here, and our dream was to eventually make it back-up here to raise our family in this beautiful community. We feel incredibly blessed to have been able to make that dream a reality. Along with Stella (7 yrs.), Maggie (5 yrs.), and Cooper (2 yrs.), we love an adventure. We adore all things Santa Barbara, especially walking, surfing, and swimming at the beautiful SB beaches, and try to take daily advantage of the convenience and community of this beautiful town.



### **How did you discover MCS?**

Having grown up in Santa Barbara, many of Conor's childhood friends attended MCS, so she was familiar with the community and teaching philosophy. When we moved to Santa Barbara, it was the obvious choice for our eldest daughter, Stella. Our middle daughter, Maggie, soon followed. This coming year Stella will be a second year in Aqua Door and Maggie a third year in Silver Door.

### **What made you choose the Montessori philosophy and in particular, MCS for your children?**

We chose Montessori Center School, first and foremost, because of the focus on the whole child. We've since experienced the very real benefits of a rich social-emotional curriculum, the peace education, and an unparalleled educational philosophy that strives to encourage a love of learning. Developing one's self-confidence, and an understanding of each individual's responsibilities to the environment and global community felt tantamount, especially in the midst of a worldwide pandemic. For us, our ultimate goal as parents is to inspire our children to be life-long learners, inclusive and accepting of all, as well as strong and independent thinkers. We believe Montessori Center School fosters an environment, and provides the necessary support, for all children to work towards being just that.

### **What stands out about the faculty and staff?**

We have consistently been impressed with how accessible and supportive the MCS staff and faculty are. The respect and kindness modeled for the children is both earnest and refreshing. While all MCS families likely cherish their teachers, Stella and Maggie have truly had the most generous, loving, engaged, and motivated

teachers. The girls have so much gratitude for the excitement and passion that each teacher and specialist continuously brings to their individual classrooms on a daily basis.

### **How do you feel MCS handled the COVID-19 pandemic?**

In addition to the Montessori philosophy, and MCS's ability to implement it so beautifully in our present world, we were drawn to MCS because of the exceptional way they were handling the COVID-19 pandemic. We were extremely impressed by how nimble and creative they were in utilizing outdoor spaces (with proper sun coverings), installing air purifiers, and, later in the pandemic, incorporating coordinated testing efforts. We found the level of communication around the pandemic to be honest, transparent, and remarkably helpful. We were especially impressed with how each and every staff member, including the directors and administrators, worked to ensure the health and safety of the entire MCS community, as a whole.

### **In what ways do you enjoy volunteering at MCS?**

As parents, we appreciate having the opportunity to volunteer at MCS. The ability to help foster a feeling of community, while simultaneously creating a stronger connection to our children's daily lives, makes for a win-win scenario. It has been our small way to show our appreciation for our teachers, staff, and the larger MCS community.

### **What do you love most about MCS?**

There are so many things to love about MCS. Specifically, though, we relish how MCS fosters a true sense of community. Even through the pandemic, our children felt a particularly close connection to their classmates and teachers. MCS continues to offer such a wonderfully rich and supportive environment, even during an uncertain time.

### **What does your child enjoy most about the Montessori approach to learning?**

When Stella and Maggie are asked what they appreciate and enjoy most about Montessori, a smile slowly grows on each of their faces ... "The teachers! They are so respectful and they understand what each kid needs. I love that each specialist has their own unique personality." There's definitely a bit of extra love around our house for Leane.

### **How did the outdoor learning environments benefit your child this year?**

Our temperate coastal landscape offers the perfect environment for outdoor learning. We are so pleased to see MCS utilizing this gift in such an extraordinary way. We continue to experience huge benefits from the outdoor learning environments at MCS and strongly believe in the research that shows increased levels of concentration and engagement, as well as reduced stress levels.

"I really like that we get to learn while we are outside. We get to explore the work while exploring the environment. It just feels so good to experience a breeze while you are concentrating on your work."  
—Stella Adler

### **What are a few aspects of the learning at MCS that you hope your children will carry their entire lives?**

As parents who strive to raise strong and independent thinkers, the idea of auto-education was very appealing to us. We very much believe in the notion that doing for a child, what they can do for themselves, does them a grave disservice and it's one of the core principles that immediately drew us to Montessori. We value freedom of thought, freedom of exploration, and freedom of expression. Providing that sort of space to a child, from the outset, lays the foundation for self-aware, self-able, and self-confident adults. What parent doesn't want that for their children?

*"This is the hope we have—a hope in a new humanity that will come from this new education, an education that is a collaboration of man and the universe...."* — Dr. Maria Montessori



# ANNUAL GIVING

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## The Fund for MCS

We would like to acknowledge our donors who generously contributed to the 2021-2022 Fund for MCS. Your support is not only appreciated, but also necessary, to help us continue our mission and vision.

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**\$5,000 +**

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Ruimeng Hu & Xu Yang  
Jieyi Zhao & Shen Zhang

Together we raised \$118,792!



# ABOVE AND BEYOND

There are many ways to give to MCS. We would like to recognize those donors who have made generous donations of \$1,500 or more over the 2021-2022 school year. Thank you for believing in MCS!

## \$10,000 and Above

Anonymous  
Phong & Susan Do  
Casey & Alexander Fang  
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El Gato Foundation  
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Fernanda Machado & Robert Riskin  
Rubi Rajbanshi & Marc Soares  
Rachil & Scott Vincent  
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## \$1,500 to \$2,499

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John Baker  
Julie & Bryce Boe  
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Gabrielle & Leo Welder

# Strategic Plan 2019-2024 Year Three in Review: 2021-2022

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	 KSI 1: A TRANSFORMATIVE STUDENT EXPERIENCE THROUGH EXEMPLARY MONTESSORI ACADEMICS, PROGRAMS AND RELATIONSHIPS	 KSI 2: OUR SUSTAINABLE FUTURE	 KSI 3: AN ENGAGED, INFORMED, COLLABORATIVE MCS COMMUNITY
	ACTIONS	ACTIONS	ACTIONS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Opened a STEAM Lab on campus to further prepare students for 21<sup>st</sup> century learning</li><li>Launched "Explore Ecology" gardening program in Primary and Elementary</li><li>Evaluated and updated the Elementary writing program</li><li>Added Waseca reading program to Lower Elementary language curriculum</li><li>Implemented a new math screener assessment tool for Kindergarten and Elementary students</li><li>Introduced Second Step social-emotional learning curriculum to Primary students</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Developed and implemented layered COVID-19 mitigation strategies and invested in ongoing COVID-19 screenings to protect faculty, staff and students</li><li>Secured record-level sponsorship revenue for the 2022 Auction</li><li>Formed an ad hoc investment policy sub-committee to review investment policy and research investment firms</li><li>Approved amended investment policy and new investment firm</li><li>Upgraded Admissions CRM technology to streamline communications</li><li>Provided positive intelligence training to faculty and staff</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Garnered front-page print and online coverage of our STEAM Lab opening</li><li>Launched parent testimonials and curriculum videos on website to provide an informative and engaging experience</li><li>Formed an alumni committee to engage and enhance relationships with former teachers, parents and students</li><li>Hosted our first in-person Auction Benefit in two years</li><li>Held a donation drive with local non-profit, Adam's Angels</li><li>Launched our first yearbook cover design contest geared towards elementary students</li></ul>



For more information about our strategic plan, visit [www.mcspb.org/strategicplan](http://www.mcspb.org/strategicplan)



# STRATEGIC PLAN

## Year Three in Review

In 2021-2022, MCS successfully provided a safe, academic environment for learning and growth. In fall 2021, we welcomed our students to campus for in-person learning and returned to operating as one unit within the classroom. By spring of 2022, we were able to invite families onto campus, host group gatherings, field trips and more. As we look to the future, our hope is to continue to reintroduce more of our signature Montessori activities and events for which the school is known.

As part of our five-year strategic plan, MCS established three key strategic plan initiatives to guide our faculty, staff and board daily:

- 1. A transformative school experience through exemplary Montessori academics, programs and relationships
- 2. Our sustainable future
- 3. An engaged, informed, collaborative community

Below we highlight several strategic plan accomplishments from the 2021-2022 school year.

### STEAM LAB OPENING

In alignment with Montessori Center School’s commitment to academic excellence, the school opened its first STEAM lab. Funded by donations from friends and family members of MCS, the interactive space engages students in hands-on, age-appropriate projects, experiments, and activities that integrate the Montessori curriculum in science, art, technology, engineering, and mathematical concepts. Within the STEAM lab, students have the opportunity to flex their critical thinking and creative muscles to collaborate, problem solve, create and innovate — all pillars of 21st-century learning. Our STEAM Lab opening was featured on the front page of The Santa Barbara News-Press and other digital news outlets.

### GARDENING WITH EXPLORE ECOLOGY

The MCS gardens have always been beautiful extensions of the Montessori classroom. Gardening aligns with the school’s commitment to honor and develop the whole child. In addition to expanding students’ studies in botany, chemistry and math, it engages all the senses, refines fine motor skills, promotes peace and reinforces our core value, Respect for All.

In winter 2021, MCS expanded its specialist curriculum to include gardening. In partnership with local nonprofit, Explore Ecology, students received weekly instruction and learned how to grow their own organic food. Students have taken ownership of their classroom gardens and maintained the food and flowers produced in them.

### COVID-19 HEALTH AND SAFETY MEASURES

MCS prioritized the health and safety of its community. Working closely with the MCS COVID-19 task force of medical experts, board members and administrators, MCS navigated evolving guidelines and best practices from the California Department of Public Health.

During the 2021-22 school year, MCS implemented surveillance and rapid testing programs for children in kindergarten through sixth grade and offered off-site free testing in partnership with Aptitude Diagnostics. Additionally, MCS provided free at-home tests to all families during holiday breaks to reduce the spread of transmission. MCS has continued to successfully adjust its masking policy based on community transmission levels. As of June 2022, 100% of staff have received COVID vaccinations.



# STRATEGIC PLAN

## Year Three in Review



### STRENGTHENING OUR FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY — INVESTING FOR THE FUTURE

The Board of Trustees established an Ad Hoc Investment Committee to review our current investment policy statement, which was very conservative and geared towards funding the construction of the Hollister property as our future new campus. As this will take years to develop, the committee revised the policy to include less conservative investment strategies to increase the return of the investments.

The Committee also recommended using a firm to fully manage the investment portfolio to increase the return of the investments, with the flexibility of the revised investment policy statement.

The Board of Trustees voted to approve the revised investment policy statement and to transfer our investment portfolio to Frontier Investments to manage.

### CAMPUS LIFE

For the first time in two years, MCS welcomed the return of outdoor cross-classroom socializing within each elementary level, field trips, extracurriculars and events. In spring 2022, we hosted our Annual Auction Benefit, securing record-level sponsorship revenue. In June, we were able to invite our families to attend our outdoor promotion and graduation ceremonies as we honored our 2022 promotees and graduates.

### ALUMNI RELATIONS

MCS established an alumni committee to strengthen ties between our MCS community, alumni students and staff. The alumni committee met a few times during the year to identify short and long-term needs, as we plan for the next school year.

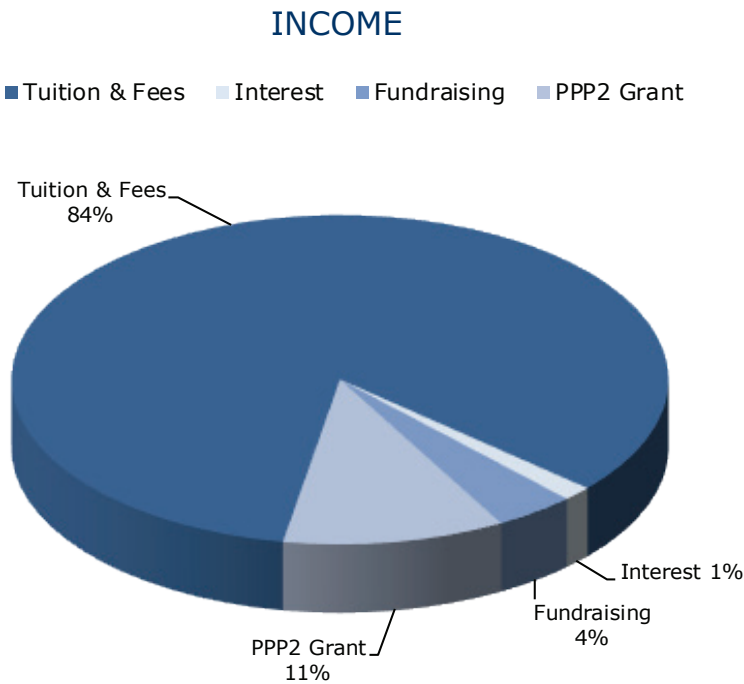


# FINANCIAL REPORT

## 2021 - 2022

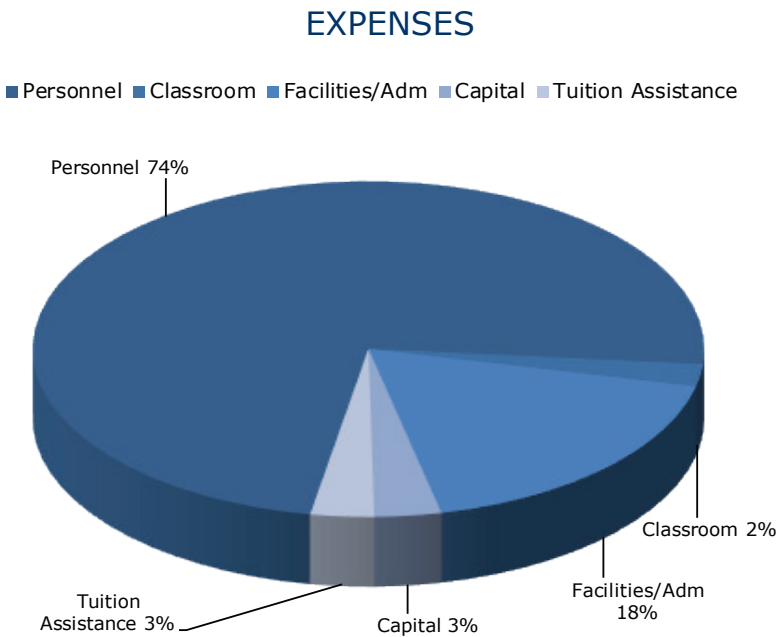
### OPERATING REVENUE

Tuition and Fees	\$4,584,600
Interest	\$78,400
Fundraising	\$206,800
PPP Grant	\$571,200
<b>Total Operating Revenue</b>	<b>\$5,441,000</b>



### OPERATING EXPENSES

Personnel	\$3,415,400
Classroom	\$100,300
Facilities and Maintenance	\$805,600
Capital	\$149,000
Tuition Assistance	\$141,300
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$4,611,600</b>

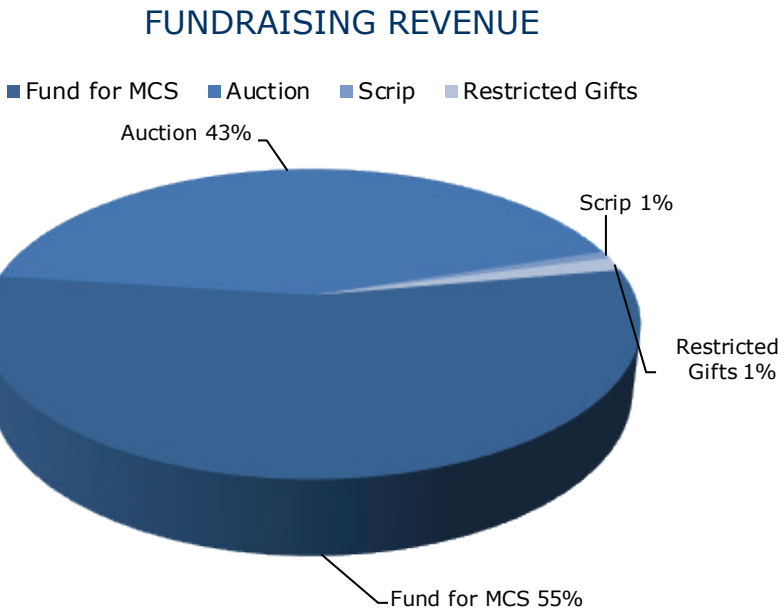


# FUNDRAISING

## 2021 - 2022

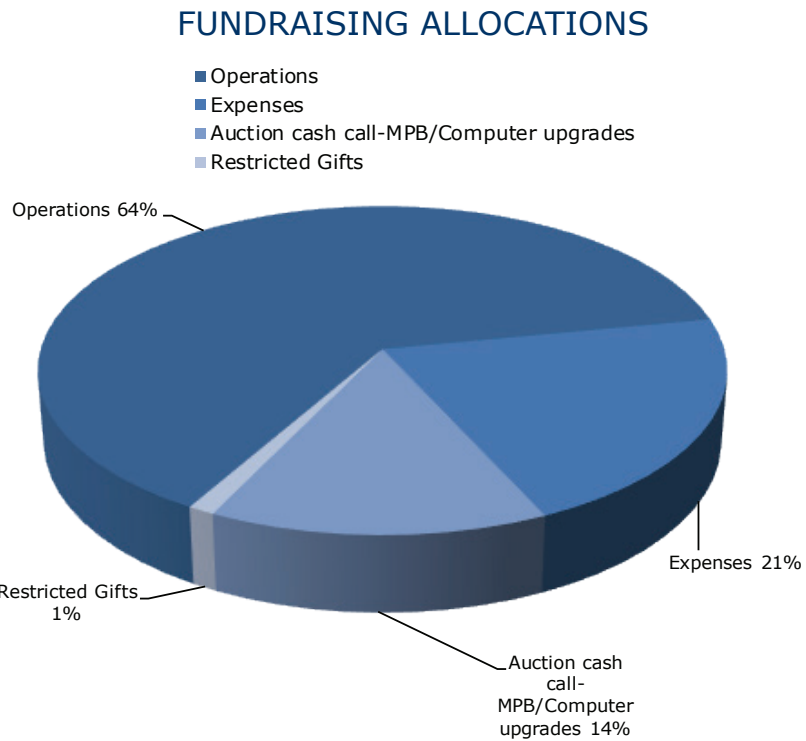
### NET FUNDRAISING REVENUE

Fund for MCS	\$116,639
Annual Auction	\$91,412
Scrip	\$1,661
Restricted Gifts	\$3,000
<b>Total Net Fundraising</b>	<b>\$212,712</b>



### FUNDRAISING ALLOCATIONS

Operations	\$171,663
Expenses	\$57,030
Auction Cash Call	\$38,050
Restricted Gifts	\$3,000
<b>Total Gross Fundraising</b>	<b>\$269,743</b>





# A NIGHT IN THE OLD WEST

## MCS Annual Auction

In April 2022, MCS held it’s annual auction benefit. This beloved event is our most anticipated social event of the year, and was our first in-person event in over two-years!

This event raised a total of \$91,412 for MCS. Proceeds from the event will support the maintenance and enhancements of campus facilities, purchase of classroom materials, and academic programming. Of this total, \$38,050 was generated in our paddle raise, which will help us refurbish the Multi-Purpose Room and provide technology for our staff.

### Thank you to our Auction Committee!

**Co-Chairs:** Morgan McDonald and Nikki Murray

**Committee Members:** Conor Adler, Grace Choy, Tania Fiedorek, Ivette Guintu, Vaishali Mashruwala, Genevieve Pelletier, Rashmi Sethi, Brittany Sloan, Alanna Snowden, Nicole Staska, Amy Levin Toohey, Amy Whiteford, Karen Goyal



# BACK IN THE SADDLE AGAIN

## Auction Donors

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Elizabeth Gallery Mosaics  
Emerald Door Families  
Eye & Vision Care  
Gold Door Families  
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MOXI Museum  
Navy Door Families  
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Orin Swift Cellars  
Phong & Susan Do  
Platinum Performance  
Purple Door Families  
Rancho Guacamole  
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SeaVees  
Silver Door Families  
Snowden Vineyards  
Sunstone Winery  
Surface FX  
Suzanne Hawtrey  
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Tyler Winery  
Vertly  
Wendy Foster  
White Door Families  
Yellow Door Families

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Mammoth Moving & Storage  
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**TRUE GRIT SPONSOR**  
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Studio 7 Architecture & Allied Arts

**DÉCOR-FLOWER COST UNDERWRITER**  
Brandi Redman & Emilia Tucker

**UNDERWRITERS**  
Melika & Tom Adams  
Gina Giannetto & Steve Adrian  
Rynell & Cameron Casey  
Emily & Dan Engel  
Veronica Flores & Benjamin Howard  
Abigail & Matthew Mirkin  
Angela Cosentino & Chuck Stumpf





# MCS PARENT VOLUNTEERS

*You Make a Difference!*

Thank you to all the MCS parents and grandparents who volunteered their time in so many different ways throughout the year.

*Executive Committee*

Tom Burk, President  
Michael-James Hey, Vice President & Treasurer  
Tim Morton-Smith, Secretary

*Development Committee*

Vanessa Jackson, Chair  
Nicole Aispuro  
Kacy Cristofani  
Lisa Lavora-De Beule  
Melanie Jacobs  
Kathy Kelley  
Mieko Kusano  
Margaret McCleery Cota  
Natalie Mutz

*COVID-19 Taskforce*

Greg Reitz, Chair  
John Berger  
Tom Burk  
Birgit Crable  
Gina Giannetto  
Melanie Jacobs  
Melanie Newhouse  
Dr. Heather Terbell  
Dr. Meghan Wallman

*New Campus Committee*

Ken Cohen, Chair  
Gina Giannetto, Chair  
Tom Burk  
Melanie Jacobs  
Melanie Newhouse  
Greg Reitz  
Lindsay Shinn  
Scott Vincent

*Marketing Committee*

Leo Welder, Chair  
Lindsey Beek  
Melanie Jacobs  
Kathy Kelley  
Lisa Lavora-De Beule  
Alyssa Morris  
Pia Simone-Ellerman

*Strategic Planning Committee*

Tom Burk, Chair  
Sandy Gorman  
Suzanne Hawtrey  
Melanie Jacobs  
Lisa Lavora-De Beule  
Tim Morton-Smith  
Melanie Newhouse  
Kathryn Parker  
Nicole Staska

*Finance Committee*

Michael-James Hey, Chair  
Carol Bedford  
Tom Burk  
Mike Challen  
Birgit Crable  
Melanie Jacobs  
Amy MacLeod

*Committee on Trustees*

Tom Burk, Chair  
Michael-James Hey  
Melanie Jacobs  
Tim Morton-Smith  
Melanie Newhouse

*Investment Committee*

Micheal -James Hey, Chair  
Michael Challen  
Birgit Crable  
Melanie Jacobs  
Amy MacLeod  
Chris Snowden

*MCS Parent Volunteers*

*MPO Co-Chairs*

Morgan McDonald  
Nikki Murray

*Staff Appreciation Committee*

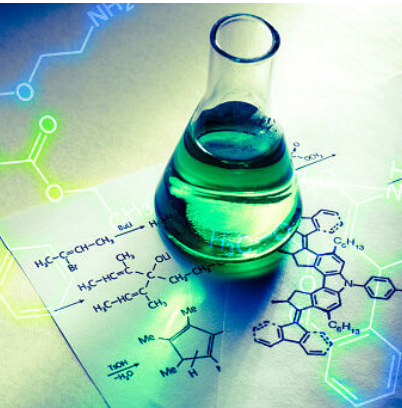
Conor Adler  
Milena Dierenfield  
Theresa Dolotta  
Ashley Eberz  
Ivette Guintu

*Room Reps*

Conor Adler  
Sonia Behrman  
Royce Borgeson  
Anne Brauhneim  
Grace Choy  
Robin Deinhard  
Karen Goyal  
Ivette Guintu  
Jennifer Jeffery  
Kat Klein  
Natalie Kunes  
Josephine Lin  
Samantha Narang  
Katie O’Keefe  
Rachel Simon  
Alanna Snowden  
Nicole Staska  
Amy Levin Toohey  
Heather Van Buren  
Gabriella Welder

# VIRTUAL EVENTS

*Community & Connection*



## VIRTUAL STEAM EVENTS

Our MPO created a virtual STEAM event series. In partnership with the Pacific Science Center, students were lead through engaging and interactive virtual workshops, activities, and demonstrations. The virtual field trips ignited the children’s curiosity with enriching content that enhanced classroom studies.



## ZACH GILL MUSIC BENEFIT

MCS parent, singer and songwriter Zach Gill, lead vocalist of the rock band ALO, and a longtime member of Jack Johnson’s band, hosted a live, virtual musical performance to support the Fund for MCS. Over 150 participants enjoyed the interactive performance, which included a selection of original music, classic covers and holiday favorites.



## VIRTUAL PARENT DISCUSSIONS

### *Breaking Generational Cycles: Stopping Unhealthy Patterns*

In her parent education webinar series Breaking Generational Cycles, Dr. Ann-Louise Lockhart, a pediatric psychologist and parent coach, explored what generational cycles look like, how they show up in unhealthy parent patterns, and how to break them.



# STAFF APPRECIATION

## Special Recognition from the MPO

Our Staff Appreciation Committee came together this year and created various ways to celebrate and appreciate the faculty and staff at MCS. Thank you for recognizing and supporting us!

### Staff Appreciation Vendors:

Something Good Organics

Lucca Pizza Truck

Welcome Coffee Cart

Mony's Taco Truck

Thank You!



*“Whoever touches the life of a child, touches the most sensitive part of a whole which has roots in the most distant past and climbs toward the infinite future.” — Dr. Maria Montessori*

# FACULTY AND STAFF

## 2021- 2022



### Pre-Primary

**Gold Door**  
Nicole Staska, Head Teacher  
Yeonwook Kim Uyeno, Assistant Teacher  
Jacqueline Ochoa, Assistant Teacher

**White Door**  
Sandy Gorman, Head Teacher  
Madison McClurkin, Assistant Teacher  
Gabriela Silva Gutierrez, Assistant Teacher

### Primary

**Blue Door**  
Zoe Makofske, Head Teacher  
Meghan Stallworth, Assistant Teacher

**Navy Door**  
Suki Contreras, Head Teacher  
Emily Carbajal, Assistant Teacher

**Red Door**  
Krista Williams, Head Teacher  
Sharon Liddy, Assistant Teacher

**Silver Door**  
Kacy Cristofani, Head Teacher  
Tessa Burns, Assistant Teacher

**Yellow Door**  
Jennifer Montague, Head Teacher  
Paige Kriewald, Assistant Teacher

### Permanent Subs

Nanci Ortiz  
Roma Garcia

### Lower Elementary

**Aqua Door**  
Kathryn Parker, Head Teacher  
Kelly Gould, Assistant Teacher

**Green Door**  
Irene Morales, Head Teacher  
Sam Hubball, Assistant Teacher

**Purple Door**  
Kimberly Sanchez, Head Teacher  
Delaney Newhouse, Assistant Teacher

### Upper Elementary

**Emerald Door**  
Erica Singer, Head Teacher  
Yailin Cervantes Rios, Assistant Teacher

**Diamond Door**  
Peggi Robinson, Head Teacher  
Maria Martinez, Assistant Teacher

### Extended Care/Primary & Elementary After-School Care

Ana Dominguez  
Kathy Finck  
Amy Guo  
Jaclyn Perry  
Savannah Reese  
Kelly Tanowitz

### Specialists

Suzanne Hawtrey, Art  
Anne Curtin, Library  
Maya Cramer-Singer, Spanish  
Claude-Lise Lafranque, Music  
Leane Ledbetter, Physical Education  
Carol Parsons, Drama  
Francis Cosworth, Technology

### Administration

Melanie Jacobs  
Head of School  
  
Birgit Crable  
Business & Facilities Manager  
  
Melanie Newhouse  
Associate Administrator  
& Director of Student Support  
  
Alyssa Morris  
Director of Admissions  
  
Lisa Lavora-De Beule  
Director of Marketing & Communications  
  
Kathy Kelley  
Director of Development  
& Alumni Relations  
  
Lisa Tosta  
Office Manager & Registrar  
  
Janelle Ashby  
Learning Specialist  
  
Shereen Ramawtar  
Bookkeeper  
  
Paulo Perez  
Groundskeeper



# GRAND OPENING

## STEAM Lab

In alignment with our ongoing commitment to academic excellence, the school opened its first STEAM lab in February 2022. Funded by donations from friends and family members of MCS, the interactive space engages students in hands-on, age-appropriate projects, experiments, and activities that integrate the Montessori curriculum in science, art, technology, engineering, and mathematical concepts.



*“We shall walk together on this path of life, for all things are a part of the universe and are connected with each other to form one whole unity.”*

— Dr. Maria Montessori, *To Educate the Human Potential*







# MONTESSORI CENTER SCHOOL

401 N. Fairview Avenue #1 | Goleta, CA 93117

805.683.9383 | [WWW.MCSSB.ORG](http://WWW.MCSSB.ORG)

