



MONTESSORI
School of Denver

Parent Education Events 2018-2019

MSD offers a series of unique adult education events during the school year. While the specific topics change yearly, Parent Education events always provide the opportunity to learn more about child development, best practices when it comes to teaching and parenting, and more about the hallmarks of the different MSD programs. There are morning coffees with the Head of School and Program Directors, as well as evening presentations about curriculum. All Parent Education events are dynamic, engaging, and leave you wanting to come to MSD every day with your child.

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Did you know?
When scheduling Parent Education events throughout the school year, we try to accommodate all parent schedules. We plan events in the mornings, mid-day, early-evening, evening, and even a weekend or two! For the evening events we offer inexpensive childcare on campus, which includes pizza and age appropriate activities. If you have feedback that you would like to share with us regarding these events, or maybe you have an idea for a topic, please email events@msd-co.org.



Details

Reservations / RSVP

Please RSVP for all Parent Education Events that you plan on attending. Also, please let the Receptionist know if you need evening childcare. It is especially important that you RSVP for childcare so that we have enough pizza available for all children attending.

RSVP to the Receptionist, by phone (303-756-9441) or email (events@msd-co.org).

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Childcare

Childcare is available to all current MSD students during the following 6pm evening Parent Education events:

Child Assault Prevention (CAP), Oct. 3

Alumni Panel, Nov. 1

Parent Choice Night, Jan. 24

The cost for childcare is \$8 per child and includes age appropriate activities and pizza. The fee must be paid directly to the assistant at drop-off by cash or check. Reservations must be made for childcare. See above for reservation details.

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Work Bond

In fulfilling a family's Work Bond obligation for the school year, **MSD asks each family to attend at least one Parent Education event** (worth two Work Bond credits). Of course, we hope you will attend as many as you can! Each time a family member attends a Parent Education event, they are asked to sign in. Please keep track of your attendance on your Work Bond card.

Overview of Topics

MSD 101

Saturday, August 25, 2018, 9am-1pm

This special Parent Education event is just for our new families. Parents enjoy a morning filled with classroom adventures, including Specials classes! Come experience firsthand the cool things we do at MSD and see how our dynamic curriculum is put into action each and every day in our classrooms. This is a parents only day at school. Sorry, childcare will not be available on campus.

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8th Grade Outplacement Meeting

Monday, September 17, 2018, 8:30am

Eighth grade parents are encouraged to attend this very informative coffee. We will discuss the high school admissions process for your student, and schedule individual meetings with your family to talk more about your thoughts, needs, and hopes with regards to finding a wonderful high school fit for your child.

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Parenting the Digital Generation w/ Katie Koestner

Monday, September 17, 2018, 12:30-1:30pm

This special "Lunch and Learn" features guest Katie Koestner who has lectured at over 5000 schools in North America on the topics of cyber-safety and healthy online relationships. Katie is passionate about spreading the word about utilizing technology safely and challenges students and parents all across the globe to rethink their assumptions and use of technology. Katie will cover topics that will be of interest to parents of children of all ages – we encourage all parents to attend! Feel free to bring a lunch, and a friend, to the discussion.

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Catch the Buzz Coffee: Program Updates, Transitions

Thursday, September 20, 2018, 8:30am

**This event is intended for parents new to Primary, Lower Elementary, and Middle School, but is open to all.*

Please join our Educational Leadership Team, Rachel Northrop, Anne Hewetson, and Travis Snyder for a conversation about transitioning to the next program level.



This Parent Coffee will specifically focus on transitioning into Primary, first grade, and sixth grade - all big milestones for children! The discussion will include program specific information and developmentally appropriate support that we provide and things that you can do to support at home, as well. You will walk away with knowledge about what to expect from this transitional period as well as some ideas to help you and your child navigate the new waters with ease.

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Child Assault Prevention (CAP)

Wednesday, October 3, 2018, 6pm

**This event is mandatory for all Primary through Middle School Parents. Childcare available.*

CAP will be at MSD working with Primary through Middle School students, as well as the full Faculty and Staff from October 6-9. CAP will hold a special evening workshop for parents before their classroom work so that you can hear exactly what your child will be learning, how you can continue to teach the principles of child abuse prevention at home after the workshops are over, and also allow time for you to ask questions regarding bully assault, stranger abduction, and sexual abuse.

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Diversity & Inclusion Workshop with Dr. Derrick Gay

Saturday, October 20, 2018, 9am-4pm

We are thrilled to welcome Dr. Derrick Gay back to MSD for the second time. Dr. Gay is an internationally recognized consultant to schools and educational programs around the world on issues of diversity, inclusion, and global leadership. Dr. Gay collaborates with education thought leaders to foster empathy, cultivate cultural competency, and deepen inclusion. He will begin with this parent and educator weekend workshop, which we encourage all MSD parents to attend. An online event registration will be available mid-September. Check The MSD Bee for details.

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Catch the Buzz Coffee: A Discussion with Dr. Derrick Gay on Diversity & Inclusion

Monday, October 22, 2018, 8:30-10am

Start your day with a Catch the Buzz conversation with Dr. Derrick Gay before he begins working with MSD students, Kindergarten through Middle School for the day. Search for Dr. Gay's TED talk on YouTube.



Alumni Panel: The MSD Graduate

Thursday, November 1, 2018, 6pm

**Childcare available.*

Join us as we welcome high school alumni students back to campus to share their personal MSD experiences. These amazing MSD graduates will give you an inside look on how MSD prepared them for high school and beyond. We will also share what we hear about our graduates from the schools they transitioned to, and have alumni parents on hand to answer questions from their perspective. You will learn about all the ways our alumni took their MSD education off campus and out into the world. Come meet these inspiring, young people for yourself!

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Montessori Beyond the Primary Years Elementary/Middle School 101

Thursday, November 8, 2018, 8:30-10am

Come and learn about the Montessori experience at the Elementary and Middle School levels! Anne Hewetson and Travis Snyder will discuss the milestones, experiences, and the continuum of learning that happens in these MSD programs. Current parents will also be on hand to share their experiences and perspectives. After the presentation, you will have the opportunity to observe these programs in action! Don't miss this chance to see how Montessori continues to support and foster a love of learning for our older students.

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Montessori Morning

Saturday, November 10, 2018, 9-11am

Please join us for a Saturday morning Parent Education experience! Toddler Parents are encouraged to come learn all about Toilet Training the Montessori way, while Primary through Middle School parents are invited to experience a Silent Journey. See below for descriptions.

- **Toddler Toilet Training**

Come and learn from the Toddler faculty about child development from two to three years including how to support toilet training at home and at school. Join us for a discussion on how we approach Toileting from the Montessori perspective. We will talk about signs of readiness, independence, and the transition into underwear.



• **Silent Journey and Discovery**

Have you ever wondered what Montessori looks like through the eyes of your child? The Silent Journey and Discovery experience is designed to allow you to view and interact with the Montessori environment and materials through the eyes of a child because, and for a short time, you get to *be the child*. In order to better understand and appreciate the developmental nature of the Montessori materials and how they contribute to your child's intellectual, emotional, moral, physical, and spiritual growth, MSD is hosting our own morning of hands-on learning and discovery. You don't want to miss this!

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Back to Work Night (All program levels)

Thursday, November 15, 2018, 5-6:30pm

A family favorite! Please join your child(ren) in their classroom(s) for the night. This is a fun evening event for students, at all program levels, to show off their classrooms and the work they have been practicing (teachers will be on hand for assistance when needed).

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Kindergarten 101

Thursday, December 6, 2018, 8:30am

Come and join other prospective Kindergarten parents interested in learning more about the MSD Kindergarten program. Rachel Northrop will discuss the continuum of learning, curriculum, classroom structure, assessment, milestones, and experiences for the MSD Kindergarten students. After the formal presentation, parents will have the opportunity to observe the Kindergarten group in action. This is a great introduction to the final step of Primary, the cherry on the sundae!

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Catch the Buzz: Mental Health and Anxiety in Children and Adults

Friday, January 11, 2019, 8:30am

Please join Dr. Sara Knickerbocker, Psychologist, and Joo Ree Chu, MSD's School Psychologist, for an informative discussion on managing anxiety. Anxiety is an evolutionary and adaptive response that is a necessary part of our human functioning. It can even enhance our performance at times, but too much anxiety creates distress in our lives.



Join us to learn how to catch the physiological signs in your own body that activate your nervous system so that you can learn how to transform uneasy sensations that interfere and create distress. Parents will learn about how to identify and address common reasons for anxiety in their children, and when symptoms warrant professional help.

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Primary 101

Thursday, January 17, 2019, 8:30am

This is a special event for all Toddler parents to learn more about your child's next step at MSD, the Primary program. Rachel Northrop, Director of Early Childhood Education, and members of our Primary Faculty will discuss the continuum of learning, curriculum, classroom structure, assessment, milestones, and experiences. After the formal presentation, parents will have the opportunity to observe the programs in action.

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Parent Choice Night

Thursday, January 24, 2019, 5:45pm

**Childcare available.*

These evening choice events give parents the choice of one of four topics of interest, spanning from Toddler to Middle School program levels, presented by MSD Faculty and Staff members.

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|-----------|---|
| 5:45-6:15 | Childcare drop-off, parent welcome, and news from the Parent Association. Snacks available. |
| 6:15-7:30 | Topic of choice presentations. |
| 7:30-8:00 | Sweet Talk. Sweet treats provided by the PA and conversation provided by you! |
| 8:00 pm | Childcare pick-up please. |

- **Montessori in the Home**

A Prepared Environment is a fundamental tenet of Montessori philosophy. Come learn from Toddler and Primary faculty all about ways to incorporate the Montessori philosophy in your home and our approach to discipline. There will be a short video and time for questions and answers.



- **Love and Logic Overview**

MSD veteran teacher and Love and Logic trained facilitator, Mary Bareis-Golumb, will introduce the basics of this practical parenting technique, which is a wonderful compliment to Montessori philosophy! Learn how to stay calm when faced with challenging parenting moments and help your child learn from her mistakes using empathy and natural consequences.

- **Raising Responsible Children: Chores, Allowance, and Doing Good**

Join in the discussion that many parents struggle with! This conversation will include thoughts and ideas on chores, allowances, teaching the concept of money and financial decision making, and how to raise a philanthropic child.

- **Raising Kids in a Social Media World**

It's no secret that technology continues to expand at a rate that makes it challenging for parents and educators to keep up. From connecting on social networking sites, cyber-bullying, photo sharing, your digital footprint, and online safety, come and learn how parents can support their child in making good choices in their digital lives and what we do in the classrooms at MSD to support keeping kids safe online. We will also provide useful information on how to determine when your child is ready for a cell phone, managing screen time, creating family media use limits, and developing positive digital citizenship.

**Topics may change closer to the date of the event. Check the all school newsletter, The MSD Bee, in January for updates.*

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Back to Work Night (TODD/PRI/K)

Thursday, February 28, 2019, 5-6:30pm

A family favorite! Please join your Toddler, Primary, and Kindergarten child(ren) in their classroom(s) for the night. This is a fun evening event for students to show off the work they have been practicing in their classrooms (teachers will be on hand for assistance when needed). Before heading home, be sure to stop by the Science Fair in the Arts & Athletics Center (details below) and the Book Fair in the Library.



Upper Elementary & Middle School Science Fair

Thursday, February 28, 2019, 6-7:30pm

The Upper Elementary and Middle School students will be taking on the role of teacher, presenting their final science/sustainability projects, giving demonstrations, and answering questions about their cumulative work on this special annual event. This is a great evening to see dynamic thinking in action. We encourage all families to stop by and explore the wonders of science with our Upper Elementary and Middle School students.

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Kindergarten KaBoom!

Friday, March 1, 2019, 1:30pm

Parents are invited to attend our annual Kindergarten Kaboom where you can see firsthand the learning explosion that takes place in the Kindergarten program. Kindergarten students learn and present experiments revolving around physics, chemistry, and more. You may be the one asking your student questions! Toddler and Primary program parents interested in learning more about our Kindergarten program are encouraged to attend.

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Lower Elementary FUNDamentals Fair

Tuesday, March 5, 2019, 6pm

Lower Elementary will be putting the FUN in fundamentals as they host an exciting evening celebrating the everyday learning that happens in Lower Elementary. Students will choose a lesson that they love, have mastered, and would like to teach to you! Kindergarten students and their parents are highly encouraged to attend but all are welcome to come and see our Lower Elementary students demonstrate their knowledge.

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Catch the Buzz Coffee: Education at the National Level

Friday, April 12, 2019, 8:30am

We will have just returned from our own learning opportunities at the American Montessori Society (AMS) and National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS) conferences. We will be anxious to share what the buzz is all about at the national level, and most importantly, where MSD fits into these meaningful discussions on how best to prepare students for the future. This will be the final Parent Education event of the school year.

MSD Master Teacher and Love and Logic Trained Facilitator, Mary Bareis-Golumb will be facilitating two Love & Logic Parent Education sessions this year (see dates below).

Becoming a Love and Logic Parent®

A parenting program designed by the Love and Logic Institute.

Answers to:

“How do I get them out of bed in time for carline?”

“How can I stop my children from bickering and fighting?”

“How do I get my children to help with the chores without an argument?”

“Is there a way to discipline my toddler in public without creating a scene?”

“How can I get my teenage daughter to come home at the agreed-upon time?”

“How do I get him to stop spitting peas and whining at dinner?”

As well as many other day-to-day parenting challenges.

This parenting program is designed to give you practical skills that can be used immediately, and it is a wonderful compliment to Montessori philosophy!

Details:

Session 1:

Thursdays, 6-8pm (1/10, 1/31, 2/7, 2/14, 2/21, 3/14)

**Please note there will not be class on 1/17, 1/24, 2/28 or 3/7*

Session 2

Thursdays, 6-8pm (4/4, 4/11, 4/18, 4/25, 5/2, 5/9)

Location: MSD Library

Registration Cost: Single parent \$235 / Dual parent \$360

**All materials included*

Registration will be open December 1, 2018 at

www.montessoridenver.org/community/parent-education-events

**Invite your friends to join you! This Parent Education event is open to the public. Sorry, no childcare will be available on campus.*