

# About Monocacy Valley Montessori Public Charter School



**MONOCACY  
VALLEY  
MONTESSORI**  
PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

## What is Monocacy Valley Montessori Public Charter School?

MVMPCS is a small, intimate, and democratic learning community where children learn actively, think critically, and solve problems creatively.

## But aren't Montessori schools private and focused on early childhood?

MVMPCS is a unique program which embodies the strengths of the Montessori philosophy within the secure framework of an outstanding county public school system. Founded in 2002 as Maryland's first charter school, attendance is open to Frederick County Public School students, pre-K through 8th grade. Students are selected by lottery.

## What is unique about this program?

- The Montessori approach includes a prepared environment, hands-on materials, multi-sensory learning, mixed age classes, and self-directed progress.
- Learning occurs at the individual student's pace. No child is held back to wait for the rest of the class,

nor rushed on to the next concept before an earlier one is mastered.

- Visitors will not see rows of desks, but study centers for different subject areas, clusters of student-sized tables, and open areas for floor work.
- Students work independently or in small groups for long uninterrupted periods of time.
- Montessori materials include specially designed manipulatives which focus on a particular concept or skill. These materials are designed to be self-correcting so students receive immediate feedback about their understanding and proficiency.
- The teacher circulates among the students, assessing their progress or introducing them individually or as small groups to a project or task.
- There is a teacher and a teaching assistant in every elementary classroom.
- We are part of Frederick County Public Schools, an excellent county school system with many unique programs, including three charter schools, which allows for school choice and diversity.

- As a public school, we have special education services on site to help students who need additional support in order to succeed in school.
- Our middle school program provides a bridge between Montessori-based learning and the more traditional high school programs most students will attend, accessing the Core Curriculum Standards in preparation for college and career readiness.

## How do I learn more?

We encourage new and seasoned teachers to visit MVMPCS to see this unique program in action. We work with both Montessori and traditional teacher preparatory programs to coordinate internships at our school. We cherish and believe in our school and welcome opportunities to share it with others. Please contact us to discuss opportunities.

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